



DKS era begins, 13 mins take oath

Parameshwara deputy CM; Khader, Yathindra only new faces, rest from previous cabinet

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@ Bengaluru

SIXTY-FOUR-YEAR-OLD Dodalahalli Kempegowda Shivakumar on Wednesday took the oath as the 18th chief minister of the state of Karnataka. The swearing-in ceremony, held at the Glass House of Lok Bhavan, also saw Dr G Parameshwara taking the oath as the deputy chief minister, marking his second stint at that.

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot administered the oath of office and secrecy to Shivakumar and a council of 13 ministers, including Dr G Parameshwara, with the other 12 being KH Muniyappa, KJ George, MB Patil, Ramalinga Reddy, Sathish Jarakiholi, Krishna Byregowda, Priyank Kharge, UT Khader, Eshwar Khandre, Dr Yathindra Siddaramaiah, Byrathi Suresh and Sharan Prakash Patil. However their portfolios are yet to be allotted, while the list of additional ministers in the next phase is expected to be done after the June 18 polls to four Rajya Sabha seats of Karnataka and the biennial elections for seven MLC seats.

While UT Khader and Dr Yathindra are newly inducted ministers under Shivakumar, the rest have served as ministers in the former CM Siddaramaiah's cabinet previously. Notably, four legislators representing Bengaluru made it to Shivakumar's partial cabinet in the



DK Shivakumar seeks the blessings of his mother Gowramma before taking oath as chief minister in Bengaluru on Wednesday | EXPRESS

The CM chair does not belong to this DK Shivakumar; it is the people's chair. I will dedicate the power given by the people to the service of the people. Setting aside my personal views, I have taken up this power with the resolve to serve the people of the state

DK Shivakumar, Chief Minister

BK Hariprasad picked as KPCC president

The Congress high command on Wednesday evening announced 71-year-old veteran leader and MLC BK Hariprasad as president of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) after DK Shivakumar resigned from the post in the morning | P5

first phase, raising hopes for the city's development.

Holding a copy of the Indian Constitution, Shivakumar took the oath in the name of his de-

ity 'Veera Gangadhar Ajjayya Swamy' at 4.14 pm.

Before taking oath, he bowed before the gathering and offered floral tributes to Ajjayya's portrait prominently present on the dais. Parameshwara, a Dalit face of the government, took oath in the name of Dr BR Ambedkar, architect of the Indian constitution, which evoked huge cheers from the gathering.

Shivakumar will now be the CM for the remaining term of one year and ten months ahead of the 2028 assembly polls. P5

DKS makes big announcements

FREE BUS PASS FOR ALL STUDENTS: Free bus travel for all students studying in government, private and even aided institutions, from school to postgraduate level. Applications for the scheme will be issued in the coming days. At present, only girl students are getting benefit because of the Shakti guarantee scheme.

ONLINE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE: Government to launch an online employment portal to connect job seekers with private-sector employers and provide industry-specific skill training. Developed in consultation with industry bodies, the platform will function as an online employment exchange for sectors such as IT-BT, healthcare and hospitality. A certain percentage will be fixed for Kannadigas and this initiative is expected to take shape within a month.

10K YOUTH CLUBS: The government will set up 10,000 Bharat Jodo Youth Associations across the state to promote sports, culture and skill development. Each association will receive ₹10 lakh and have 150-200 youth members.

KHATA CONVERSION: The B Khata to A Khata conversion which is available in Bengaluru will be extended across the state.

ONE-TIME SETTLEMENT: The government is planning a one-time relief for buildings up to 2500 sqft without completion and occupancy certificates, enabling owners to secure water and electricity connections.

BETTER ROADS FOR BENGALURU: ₹2,000 crore to be allocated for road asphaltting within Greater Bengaluru Authority and BDA limits and all roads will be covered within three to four months.



1 Fire at the Flourish Stay B&B (above) in Malviya Nagar started around 8.30 am and spread through the five-floor building. It had only one entry-exit point

2 A family of foreign nationals (left) hangs from the B&B window as fire engulfs the building

3 It housed a restaurant on the ground floor while the basement and upper floors were being used as the hotel

11 FOREIGNERS AMONG 21 KILLED IN DELHI BLAZE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

A fire that ripped through an illegally expanded hotel in south Delhi's Malviya Nagar on Wednesday morning killed at least 21 people — including 11 foreign nationals — in one of the capital's deadliest blazes in recent years. It did not have a no-objection certificate from the fire department.

The Flourish Stay B&B in Hauz Rani had a licence for just six rooms but was running 25. Its windows were permanently sealed. It had a single entry-exit point with a sensor-operated main door. When fire broke out around 8.30 am, the five-floor narrow building turned into a furnace with a tiny exit. Visuals from the area — with narrow lanes, overhanging wires and cramped buildings haphazardly sharing space — showed high flames rising in the air and wires twisted in the heat hanging precariously. Horrified eyewitnesses watched people jump from upper floors and a woman clutching an infant leap onto mattresses spread below.

"As far as a fire NOC is concerned, we had not received any reference from either building authorities or licensing agency," Deputy Chief Fire Officer A K Malik said.

Most foreign victims were from Central Asian and African countries, staying nearby to care for relatives admitted to Max Hospital across the road. At least 58 people were rescued; several remain critical. The toll is likely to go up.

The blaze also killed eight members of a Gurugram family who had travelled to Delhi to visit an ailing relative. The victims, including a CA, his wife and two daughters, were staying on the first floor when the fire broke out.

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Rebels wrest Didi's Trinamool

SUBHENDU MAITI @ Kolkata

IN a massive shake-up that appeared to snatch the Trinamool Congress from its founder, Mamata Banerjee, the West Bengal Assembly Speaker on Wednesday recognised a 58-MLA rebel bloc as the "real Trinamool" and appointed expelled MLA Ritabrata Banerjee as Leader of the Opposition.

Speaker Rathindranath Bose accepted a letter signed by the rebel MLAs and formally recognised Banerjee, a first-timer from Uluberia Purba, as leader of the legislative party and former minister Akhruzzaman as chief whip. The rebel camp also unveiled a new leadership structure for the legislature party. Veteran legislators Javed Ahmed Khan, Sandeepan Saha, Sabina Yasmin and Shiuli Saha would serve as deputy leaders. The assembly secretary symbolically handed over the keys to the LoP's chamber to Banerjee within hours. P10



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AIR 15 VELDURTHI HARSHITH

AIR 16 TANAY AGARWAL

AIR 20 ANISH MUPPALLA

NARAYANA STUDENTS IN TOP 100 OPEN CATEGORY RANKS

AIR 22 AIR 23 AIR 24 AIR 27 AIR 33

AIR 35 AIR 39 AIR 41 AIR 44 AIR 51

AIR 54 AIR 57 AIR 58 AIR 60 AIR 61

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many more...



LOK BHAVAN CHOCK-A-BLOCK ON DKS' OATH-TAKING DAY

MOHAMMED YACOOB &
RAKSHITH GOWDA @ Bengaluru

THOUSANDS of Congress supporters and DK Shivakumar followers from across the state, in general, and Kanakapura in particular, gathered outside Lok Bhavan to catch a glimpse of their favourite leader's swearing-in ceremony. Supporters raised slogans in support of Shivakumar while watching the ceremony on LED screens installed outside Lok Bhavan. Firecrackers were also burst to celebrate the occasion.

Around 1pm, supporters of DK Shivakumar began arriving near Lok Bhavan and Vidhana Soudha. By 3pm, the roads leading to the venue were packed with the crowd and folk art performers.

Supporters thronging the Lok Bhavan Road raised slogans in support of Shivakumar, referring to him as "DK". The chief minister designate arrived at the Lok Bhavan around 3.20 pm After DK Shivakumar took the oath of office, laddus were distributed among supporters.

A die-hard fan of Shivakumar, Giri Gowda from Hanumanpura in Tumakuru, tattooed the date and time of DK Shivakumar's swearing-in on his arm. He said he is a huge admirer of DK Shivakumar for his work and leadership.

"Out of my love and admiration for him becoming the CM, I tattooed the date and time of his swearing-in ceremony. I will try to meet him today," he said.

Supporters of Shivakumar from Bhadravathi in Shivamogga painted their faces with letters, "DKS", while several other supporters wore T-shirts printed with his photograph and captions hailing him as the new CM.

Jayasiddu GS, another die-hard fan who arrived all the way from Sondepanahalli in Kanakapura town, lauded the Congress high command for making Shivakumar the CM and said, "At last, the party has taken a good decision and rewarded 'DK Shi' with the CM post. He deserves it as he rose from the ranks of a soldier to the ruler. Now our request to the son of our taluk is that he should bring in a degree college at a Gram Panchayat in Kanakapura as hundreds of youngsters have to travel to far away colleges to pursue graduation," said Jayasiddu.

Another supporter from Mulbagal in Kolar, YV Nagaraj, who went on a fast for Shivakumar's success, said, "I have been his follower for the past 16 years and have seen his struggle to keep the party united. He brings decorum to the party, and with his relentless and ethical work, he will bring the party back to power in 2028."



(Clockwise from above) A crowd of supporters at the swearing-in ceremony of DK Shivakumar as the 18th chief minister of Karnataka at Lok Bhavan in Bengaluru on Wednesday; teams of artists perform 'dolu kunittha' and 'hulivesha' at the event and a jam-packed Kasturba Road leading to Lok Bhavan and Vidhana Soudha at the time of the event in the evening | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA, KEVIN NASHON & VINOD KUMAR T

At last, the party has taken a good decision and rewarded 'DK Shi' with the CM post. He deserves it as he rose from the ranks of a soldier to the ruler.

Jayasiddu GS, a follower of DKS



KRIPA ALVA DENIED ENTRY TO LOK BHAVAN, TAKEN TO POLICE STATION



Former chairperson of Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights Kripa Alva on Wednesday went to witness the swearing-in of DK Shivakumar at Lok Bhavan, but the police outside not just heckled, but put her in the Hoysala van and took her to Vidhana Soudha police station. Alva, despite showing the pass, was not allowed due to a packed house at Lok Bhavan. She told TNIE, "The situation I faced was very embarrassing. I came to witness swearing in, but was taken to the police station. Later, the police took me back to the glass house at Lok Bhavan, but by then the oath-taking was over," she said. "We were told not to allow crowding outside Lok Bhavan due to VVIP movement. Hence, we had to clear people," a constable told TNIE.

CM swearing-in-ceremony passes off incident free

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

WEDNESDAY'S swearing-in ceremony went on peacefully. Traffic movement was normal except for those working in private firms near Vidhana Soudha, as they had to take alternative routes to reach their offices.

Commuters depending on BMTC buses had to walk as movement of vehicles was restricted at KR Circle on Dr BR Ambedkar Road. Those who had come for the event at Lok Bhavan without event passes had to walk the stretch as parking facilities were provided almost

three to four kilometers away.

Vehicles without the event passes were parked at the multi-level parking facility at Shivajinagar, UB City parking area, Kanteerava Stadium, Government Arts College premises, Corporation Office Premises and Palace Grounds. Buggies were used to transport celebrities and other dignitaries whose vehicles with event passes were parked at the LH Parking area behind Lok Bhavan, on Nehru Planetarium premises and in the parking bays of Vidhana Soudha and Vikasa Soudha.

Around 5.45pm, CM-designate DK Shivkumar went to Vidhana Soudha from Lok Bhavan. He walked from Lok Bhavan till almost junction, waving to supporters. He got into a vehicle near the junction, and disembarked at the entrance of Vidhana Soudha. He waved to supporters and paid his respects to the statues of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr BR Ambedkar, Jawaharlal Nehru by offering floral tributes. Then he boarded a buggy along with a few new ministers

to reach Vidhana Soudha. Before entering, Shivakumar offered prayers to Shri Aralikkatte Muneshwara Swamy temple on the premises.

Only vehicles with passes were allowed to enter Lok Bhavan Road as police had barricaded GPO Circle. Seating arrangements were made for the public on one side of Lok Bhavan Road. Senior police officials were seen attending to guests coming in through the road. Police were also stationed on both sides of Dr BR Ambedkar Veedhi, Queens Road and Lok Bhavan Road. Both sides of the roads were completely barricaded. The public was not allowed to take their vehicle on to these roads and had to walk on the pavements.

City Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh held inspections during the past three days to review the security arrangements and crowd management measures. He also reviewed CCTV coverage and live monitoring arrangements, as well as barricading and emergency response. These measures were intended to enable real-time monitoring, early identification of crowd pressure points and swift intervention when required.

He waved to supporters and paid his respects to the statues of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr BR Ambedkar, Jawaharlal Nehru by offering floral tributes. Then he boarded a buggy along with a few new ministers

SAFETY CONCERN

East City chief orders action against walls flouting norms

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

Bengaluru East City Corporation (BECC) Commissioner DS Ramesh has directed officials to issue notices to buildings having compound walls exceeding permissible height under National Building Code (NBC).

Chairing a review meeting on the progress of various development and engineering works on Wednesday, he told officials to issue notices to the owners who are not complying with rules.

He reviewed the progress of comprehensive road development works, storm water drain desilting, junction improvement projects, road restoration works, building safety measures, disposal of Sahaya complaints and other engineering-related activities undertaken within the corporation limits.

The commissioner directed executive engineers to complete asphalt works on roads where civil works have already completed under the Chief Minister's Infrastructure Development Programme by June 9. All remaining works under these projects should be taken up on priority and completed within the stipulated timelines, he instructed.

The chief engineer was told to finalise the designs for the proposed junction improvement works under the Suraksha-75 Programme, aimed at enhancing road safety, and to commence execution without delay.

He instructed officials to urgently take up desilting and maintenance of both concrete-lined and earthen storm water drains through Annual Maintenance Contracts. He directed the removal of accumulated silt, garbage, plastic waste and weeds to improve the carrying capacity of drains and ensure smooth flow of rainwater during monsoon.

Officials were told to take priority action at all water-logging-prone locations identified by the traffic police and implement necessary corrective measures to prevent flooding and ensure smooth vehicular movement during the rainy season.

Considering the monsoon season, the Commissioner directed officials to prepare a comprehensive action plan for filling potholes. He instructed them to initiate the required tender process immediately to ensure the timely execution of works.



Horoscopes By Holiday

HOLIDAY MATHS

04th June: On Audacity to Hope Day Mercury and Neptune move out of a tense arrangement, and the moon breaks free of two heavy oppositions, lending a feeling of sunshine parting the dark clouds. It's fitting for the national holiday celebrated on June 4: Audacity to Hope Day. Lean into the generative spirit that dares to believe better is possible, that solves, joins and endures, that leaps in faith and flies.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Hope is a lever. There is always a way to make it work, to adjust or flip it. "Give me a lever long enough and a fulcrum on which to place it, and I shall move the world." -- Archimedes

TAURUS (Apr 20 - May 20)

You are the product of generations who hoped to survive through cruelty and to beat impossible odds. Though you endure and advance, in a sense you have already arrived.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21)

Hope is intrinsic. It's just part of the deal. It's sown into the simplest interactions and integrated into the profoundly life-changing ones as well. So you don't have to conjure hope, only remember its existence in existence itself.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)

Your signmate Nelson Mandela, who spent 27 years in prison before negotiating an end to apartheid and institutionalized racist laws, knew something about hope. "May your choices reflect your hopes, not your fears." -- Nelson Mandela

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)

Hope has many disguises, and for you they are often quite whimsical. Sometimes it arrives as laughter at the worst possible moment, or the urge to clean a room, answer a message, plant tomatoes, buy new boots or learn three guitar chords after midnight.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

Hope loves evidence, but it can also survive on rumor. A single good conversation, one sweet kiss, the smell of bread from a nearby kitchen, and suddenly the whole nervous system starts voting in favor of the future again.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)

Hope is often mistaken for naivety by people who confuse cynicism with intelligence. It actually requires enormous imagination to believe broken things can regain function, beauty can return and people can surprise and delight each other.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21)

Hope floats. It's like the impervious beach ball that can bob in a swimming pool or an ocean, that can ride in on any average tide or surf a tidal wave. Its properties have it hovering above the deepest dangers, buoying the heaviest hearts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Hope is relentlessly durable. People drag it through wars, divorces, blackouts, funerals and tax season, and somehow it never dings, dents or gets dusty. You cannot run out, so use as much of it as you can in as many ways as you can think to.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

Hope has been a subject of pondering for many great minds. Einstein believed hope came in the form of a powerful punctuation mark. "Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning." -- Albert Einstein

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Hope is a bridge built by people who never got to cross it themselves. Every road, recipe, proverb, song and library book carries the fingerprints of someone who believed the future should contain more chances than the past did.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar 20)

Hope behaves like ivy. Give it one crack in the wall and soon it's climbing everywhere, curling around rusted gates, abandoned factories and exhausted hearts, insisting on beauty where practicality alone would have bulldozed the entire scene long ago.

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CROSS WORD

ACROSS

- Escape route taken by aircraft (6,4)
- Large cat makes a row about midnight (5)
- 0 to be in credit for one month! (7)
- Doesn't convey a clear message say in writing (7)
- Victorious and advancing for the Polish capital (2,3)
- A diminutive person - or a ten-footer (6)
- Appears to give embarrassment (4,2)
- Reg comes back about four - he's got a present (5)
- Iron sort of cup (7)
- Strange role man plays in charitable occupation (7)
- Mother is set back by our love affair (5)
- The plight of the penitent? (5,5)

DOWN

- The girl looks different having slimmed (7)
- Overindulge in food or scrambled egg (5)
- Maoist is involved in Chinese philosophy (6)
- Ancient city where Syrians went to a chin-wag? (7)
- It's customary for riding (5)
- Plotters use it (5,5)
- It tells us when a fresh batch of mail gets in (4,6)
- Itinerant craftsman (7)
- Reckon to keep fit (4,3)
- A way man gets lost (6)
- Improvises with 5 amp fuses (5)
- Spilled a pint being clumsy (5)

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

SCBIA
ONWOS
NTMEO
RVLAOF

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app - Follow us on Facebook

THEY CAMPED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE GRAND CANYON AFTER CHOOSING A ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: " " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ELITE PATIO FLORAL CHANGE
Answer: When they completed the jigsaw puzzle, they were - ALL TOGETHER

DESPITE FIRs, SRIKI CONTINUED TO HACK, BOUGHT SOFTWARE TOOLS

ED reveals accused sold virtual digital assets via crypto platforms

YATHIRAJU @ Bengaluru

DESPITE multiple FIRs registered since 2017 onwards and chargesheets filed, notorious hacker **Srikrishna aka Sriki** continued to indulge in criminal activities associated with offences such as hacking of websites, stealing of virtual digital assets (VDAs), cheating, extortion and routing of proceeds of crime, with his associates Robin Khandelwal, a crypto trader, and others, the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) investigations revealed.

The latest WhatsApp chat between Srikrishna and Khandelwal disclosed the purchase of e-SIMs from foreign entities and subscriptions for software tools such as the Proton VPN network. It was substantiated with the recovery of WhatsApp chats from the phone seized from Srikrishna after his arrest recently by the ED, which also disclosed that Khandelwal purchased them for Srikrishna.

However, contradictory details were provided by Khandelwal and Srikrishna before the ED as to how the payments were made to the foreign entities and the purpose, during their statements recorded in May 2026. No plausible method of making payments to foreign entities has been pro-

vided for obtaining e-SIMs, software subscriptions, etc.

The examination of WhatsApp chats reveals that Srikrishna is operating cloud servers on Amazon Web Services and hidden proceeds of crime, especially in the form of VDAs, which are being sold through foreign-based crypto trading platforms.

Evidence gathered during investigation under PMLA, 2002, disclosed that the proceeds of crime or stolen bitcoins by hacking crypto websites were used by Srikrishna for personal benefits, including online betting. This was admitted by him. He used the same to book flight tickets for his associates through websites located in the Netherlands.

The investigation also revealed that the stolen data has been used for extortion, and in the case of money, the same has been routed or layered and laundered through multiple bank accounts. The proceeds of crime were used for the personal benefit of Srikrishna, Khandelwal and other associates.

While narrating the modus operandi for money laundering, the ED took note of the fact that the sale proceeds of VDAs stolen by Srikrishna were paid to accounts given by Srikrish-

na, or for his personal expenses such as luxury hotel stays, travel expenses, casino payments, and hiring a private jet for him and his associates.

Details of routing of stolen VDAs through Khandelwal, and use of sale proceeds of stolen VDAs in a crime registered in Tumakuru New Extension police station in 2017, amounting to Rs 3.34 crore for personal benefits of Srikrishna and his associates, have also been brought out in the forensic audit report undertaken by the CID, which was obtained by the ED.

The forensic audit report revealed that Khandelwal received an approximate quantum of 76.044BTC, equivalent to Rs 3.35 crore, along with 100 Ethereum equivalent to Rs 50.34 lakh. Over a period of slightly more than three years, Khandelwal had transferred Rs 3.85 crore to various accounts shared by Srikrishna.

Investigation revealed that the website of the Pokerbaazi online gaming site was hacked, over which an FIR was registered in 2018 by the city cyber crime police and an amount of Rs 70lakh was siphoned off. This crime was used to extort Rs 2 crore from the then owners of Pokerbaazi, as stated by Khandelwal during the course of the statement recorded by the ED. This was also admitted by Srikrishna.



MIND WHERE YOU PARK

Authorities tow away a bike parked on the footpath near Lok Bhavan and Vidhana Soudha ahead of the swearing-in ceremony of DK Shivakumar as chief minister on Wednesday | KEVIN NASHON

NIMHANS plans nat'l centre linking music and neuroscience

THE National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), in collaboration with the Mercuri Foundation, has proposed the establishment of the Centre for Music, Brain, Mind and Health under the patronage of noted music composer Ilaiyaraaja. Envisioned as India's first interdisciplinary national centre integrating neuroscience, mental health, music, cognition, rehabilitation and technology, the proposed institution aims to bridge traditional wisdom, artistic excellence and modern neuroscience to develop evidence-based approaches that benefit individuals and communities. Ilaiyaraaja's patronage is expected to add significant cultural and artistic depth to the project. **ENS**

Undertrial dies after assault inside Madikeri jail

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Madikeri

AN undertrial, who was critically injured in an assault inside the Madikeri District Prison on June 1, succumbed to his injuries at a hospital in Mysuru on Tuesday night. The deceased has been identified as Hemanth (25), a resident of T Shettigeri.

According to the police, the incident took place around 7.58 am near the prison kitchen when a quarrel broke out between Hemanth and fellow undertrial Rajesh L S (46). The altercation allegedly escalated into a violent attack, during which Rajesh is said to have stabbed Hemanth multiple times in the chest, abdomen and back using a knife. Hemanth was initially treated at the District Hospital in Madikeri before being shifted to KR Hospital in Mysuru for advanced treat-

ment where he succumbed to his injuries on Tuesday night.

Investigators said the assault stemmed from a longstanding feud between the two. Rajesh has been lodged in the jail since October 2024 in connection with a murder case registered at Srimangala Police Station. Hemanth, who was arrested in May this year in an attempted murder case under the same police station limits, was accused of attacking Rajesh's brother Ganesh in a dispute over property.

The police suspect the rivalry resurfaced inside the prison, culminating in the fatal assault. Hemanth's father, mother and brother are also lodged in the Madikeri District Prison as undertrials in connection with the same case.

The Madikeri Rural Police have registered a murder case against Rajesh.

Delhi hotel blaze a warning for Bengaluru establishments

ANUBHAB ROY @BENGALURU

THE deadly hotel fire in New Delhi on Wednesday, which claimed the lives of over 20 people, has come as a wake-up call for establishments in the city. While members of hotel associations doubt that a similar accident is waiting to happen in Bengaluru, they admit that panic management and signage efficacy are a concern.

Preliminary inspections on the Delhi blaze suggested that the cramped nature of the neighbourhood and lack of entry/exit points could be major contributing factors for the high number of casualties. This takes on an added significance in a city like Bengaluru which has a high density of crammed neighbourhoods.

"In Delhi, there may be spatial constraints. Hotels and restaurants in Bengaluru are generally well-equipped with entry and exit points, otherwise it is quite difficult to obtain no objection certificates (NOCs)," said a member of the Bangalore Hotels Association.

Subramanya Holla, member of the Karnataka State Hotel Association, attested to most hotels and restaurants in the city being quite open. "But the complication arises with rooftop restaurants or diners, of which there are quite a few in the city. In a situation like a fire outbreak, it is natural for people to panic, which can worsen things significantly," he said.

Holla cited signage as an area of improvement that hotels in the city should consider. "Signages, including entry and exit points, should be big and bold to be easily discernible. They should be conspicuous enough for guests to have just one look and be able to remember them in times of crisis," he said.

EXPRESS READ

TWO CPUS STOLEN FROM OFFICE OF REGISTRAR OF CO-OP SOCIETIES

Bengaluru: The Vidhana Soudha police have launched a search for miscreants after two CPUs were reportedly stolen from the office of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies on Ali Askar Road. According to a complaint filed on May 30 by Assistant Registrar Liyakath Ali Khan M, the CPUs were present in the office till 5.30 pm on April 30. On May 2, when the office was opened, the CPUs were found missing. The total value of the stolen equipment is approximately Rs 60,000, the FIR stated. The complaint alleged that the theft may have occurred due to negligence and dereliction of duty of the security personnel deployed at the office premises. Based on the complaint, the police registered a case under Section 305 (theft) of the BNS. **ENS**







Heartiest Congratulations

Shri D.K. Shivakumar & Dr. G. Parameshwar

On being elected as the Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister and Team of Ministers of Karnataka.
Wishing you a highly successful and impactful tenure. We look forward to seeing Karnataka reach new heights of progress, innovation, and inclusive development under your dynamic leadership.

Best wishes for a prosperous term ahead.



Sri. U.T. Khader



Sri. K.H. Muniyappa



Sri. K.J. George



Sri. M.B. Patil



Sri. Ramalinga Reddy



Sri. Sathish Jarakiholi



Sri. Krishna Byregowda



Sri. Priyank Kharge



Sri. Eshwar Khandre



Sri. Yathindra Siddaramaiah



Sri. Byrathi Suresh



Sri. Sharan Prakash Patil



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Hon'ble Secretary, Farooqia Group of Institution.



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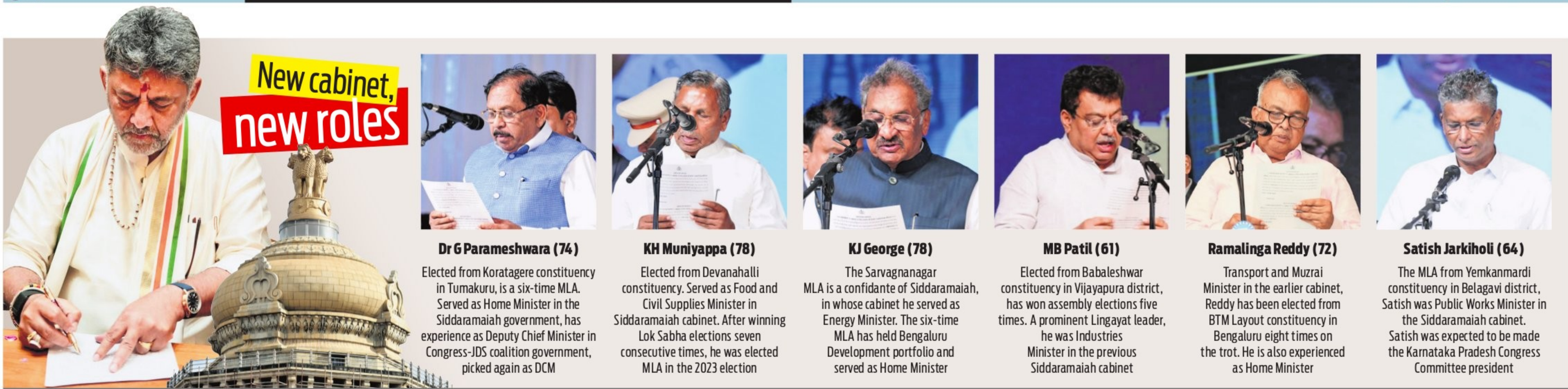
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EC MEMBER
Chairman, New Horizon Group of Educational of Institution, Bangalore.

Karnataka Religious & Linguistic Minority Professional Colleges Association (Regd.) (KRLMPCA)

Flat No. 143, 4th Floor, "SURYAMUKHI" Garden Apartments, # 21, Vittal Mallya Road, Bangalore - 560 001.
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CM'S CHAIR IS NOT MINE, IT BELONGS TO PEOPLE: DKS

In his first cabinet meeting as chief minister, DK Shivakumar announces six populist schemes for Yuva Yuga (the era of youngsters). He says auspicious time for Karnataka has arrived and that he will dedicate the next two years of his rule to public welfare

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @ Bengaluru

HOURS after taking oath as Chief Minister, DK Shivakumar, in his maiden cabinet meeting on Wednesday evening, announced a slew of welfare schemes, including free bus passes for all students studying in schools and colleges across the state and a platform to help youth get employment in the private sector.

Shivakumar, in his 2-hour-long cabinet meeting with the 13 newly sworn-in ministers, took decisions on various sectors, which the new CM called 'Nava Yuga' (new era) and 'Yuva Yuga' (era of youngsters).

Shivakumar said since there was criticism on providing free bus travel to all women, the government has decided to provide free bus passes for all students—from school-level to post graduation. Students have to submit applications, he said, adding that details will be worked out in the coming days in consultation with the Transport Department. "For all students, whether they are in SSLC, PUC, degree or postgraduate courses, we are giving free bus passes without charging anyone," Shivakumar told reporters.

On employment generation, the CM announced that the state will launch an online employment portal to connect job seekers with private-sector employers and provide skill training based on industry needs. The platform, to be developed in consultation with industry bodies such as FKCCI, will function like an online employment exchange. Employers from various sectors, including IT-BT, healthcare and hospitality, can register and recruit



DK Shivakumar prays before sitting on the CM's chair in Vidhana Soudha; Shivakumar prostrates before the gathering



candidates. Shivakumar said priority should be given to Kannadigas in hiring and added that the government would discuss fixing a percentage of reservation for locals in these industries. Three ministers have been tasked with shaping this initiative, which is expected to take a final form within a month. "We are committed to providing jobs to local people," Shivakumar added.

To encourage youth participation in sports, culture and other skill-based activities across rural and urban areas, Shivakumar said the government will facilitate the formation of 10,000 Bharat Jodo Youth Associations. Of these, around 6,000 will be set up at the gram panchayat level, while the remaining will be formed in urban wards at urban pockets. Each association will receive financial assistance of Rs 10 lakh and have 150-200 youth members. The initiative is aimed at nurturing leadership qualities and creating opportunities for youth development.

Further, Shivakumar said many people across the state are unable to obtain water and electricity connections for their buildings owing to a lack of Completion Certificates (CC) and Occupancy Certificates (OC). To address this, the government is considering a one-time relief measure for buildings of up to 2,500 sq ft that were under construction as of May 31. Beneficiaries will be required to upload photographs and videos, and the scheme will be implemented in a systematic manner across the state. "The facility for conversion of B Khata to A Khata, which is being done in Bengaluru at present, will be extended statewide," he added.

The CM also announced Rs 2,000 crore for asphalted roads in Greater Bengaluru Authority and Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) limits. "In the next three to four months, all roads will be asphalted," he said.

On funds for youth clubs and roads, Shivakumar said this is

"DK Shivakumar government".

In his maiden press conference as Chief Minister, Shivakumar said the "auspicious time" he had been speaking has finally arrived. "This responsibility has been given by the people of the state and Congress workers. I dedicate the next two years to public welfare," he said.

Recalling his political journey, Shivakumar said he had seen both highs and lows, including a stint in Tihar Jail. The CM said he had contested a school election when he was in Class 7. "This CM's chair is not mine, it belongs to the people. The opportunity may have come late, but I have got it now," he said.

He noted that Siddaramaiah had vacated the CM's post in line with the party high command's decision and described the new cabinet as a representation of all castes, religions and regions.

He also urged the media to avoid publishing false stories and said the government was open to correcting its mistakes.



Former CM Siddaramaiah, LoP in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge, CM DK Shivakumar and other Congress leaders wave at the gathering after the swearing-in ceremony at Lok Bhavan in Bengaluru on Wednesday | EXPRESS



(Clockwise from top) CM DK Shivakumar and his family pose with LoP in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi; Governor Thawarchand Gehlot administers the oath of office to Shivakumar who is holding a copy of the Constitution; Minister UT Khader drives an MUV | EXPRESS, NAGARAJA GADEKAL

STAR-STUDED EVENT

From religious heads to netas to cine stars... who's who attend event

AKNISREE KARTHIK @ Bengaluru

LEADER of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, AICC president and Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, Chief Ministers of three Congress-ruled states were among those who attended the swearing-in ceremony of DK Shivakumar.

Telangana CM Revanth Reddy, Kerala CM VD Satheesan and their Himachal Pradesh counterpart Sukvinder Singh Sukhu were present in the ceremony held at the Lok Bhavan. Chief Justice of Karnataka High Court Vibhu Bakhru was also present.

Apart from Kharge and Rahul, top brass from the Congress, including Rajya Sabha member and AICC General Secretary (Karnataka in-charge)

Randeep Singh Surjewala, AICC General Secretary (Organisation) and Alappuzha Lok Sabha member KC Venugopal were present. Outgoing CM Siddaramaiah and former CM Veerappa Moily also attended the event. As soon as Shivakumar entered Lok Bhavan, he headed towards spiritual heads from all faiths and sought their blessings. Among the prominent spiritual heads were Nirmalanandanatha Swami of Adichunchanagiri Mahasamsthana Math, Gowrigadde Avadhoot Vinay Gururji, Sri Karivishabha Deshikendra Shivayogi Mahaswami of Kadasiddeshwara Mutt in Nonavinakere, Bengaluru Archbishop Peter Machado and representatives from Hazrat Kwaja Bandenawaz Dargah at Kalaburagi.

Stars from the Kannada film industry, including Shiva Rajkumar, former MP Ramya, Ramesh Aravind, Dhananjaya, Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce President Jayamala, Ragini Dwivedi, music directors Arjun Janya and Gurukiran and others took part. Pourakarmikas, farmer leaders, students and Kannada activists were also part of swearing-in ceremony. Among the other prominent dignitaries who were in attendance were Infosys co-founder Narayana Murthy, his wife and Rajya Sabha member Sudha Murty, Karnataka State Cricket Association president Venkatesh Prasad, former India cricketers Mohammed Azharuddin, who is a minister in the Telangana cabinet, and Anil Kumble.



(Left) India cricketer Anil Kumble and actor Ragini Dwivedi arrive to attend the swearing-in ceremony | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA



Zameer misses first list, likely to be kept out

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

SENIOR Congress leader BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan, who served as the Muslim face of the party in the Siddaramaiah government, appears to have been sidelined while picking the DK Shivakumar cabinet. Prospects of his inclusion in the Congress 2.0 government in future are also looking remote.

Sources clearly said his name does not figure in the first list. The development comes as the Congress leadership works overtime to prevent discontent from the Davanagere South bypoll snowballing into a larger crisis within the party's minority base. In the bypoll held on April 9, over 20 Independent candidates—mostly Muslims—contested, fragmenting the vote and causing heartburn for the Congress. Prominent among the contestants were Khadar Adil Basha, D Syed Riyaz, Mansoor Ali UM, T Jabeena Aapa, Md Sadiq Pahlwan, H Suban Sab, Syed Chand Peer, Syed Imtiyaz, Khajamohiddin Gudageri, and CM Shabaz Khan, who collectively polled around 4,000 votes. Though numerically modest, the split was seen as symbolically damaging. In spite of herculean efforts to persuade them to step back, the party could not fully stem minority discontent. The biggest setback for the Congress was the impressive performance of SDPI candidate Afsar Kodlipete, who secured nearly 19,000 votes and finished in third place. Party sources indicate that serious complaints against Zameer have reached the high command, and he is increasingly being perceived as the key figure allegedly behind the unrest in Davanagere, in spite of his defence that the video was doctored and AI-generated.

While leaders like Jabbar and Naseer Ahmed have already been dropped for anti-party activities, Zameer's name was conspicuously absent from the first list of ministers sworn in on Wednesday. The episode has put the Congress high command in a delicate position as it tries to balance disciplinary action with the need to retain support among the minority community, ahead of future electoral battles in Karnataka.



Veteran HK Patil feels left out

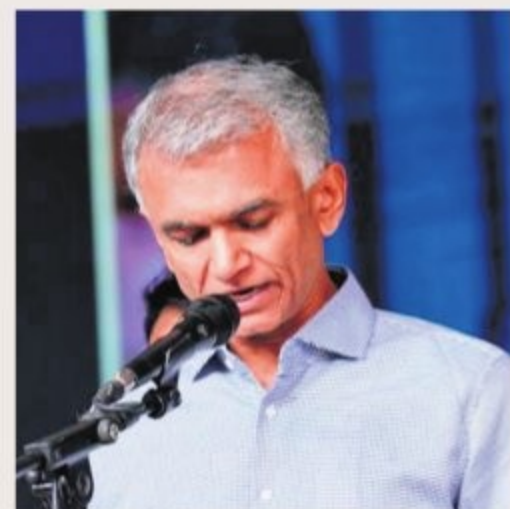
Senior Congress leader HK Patil's social media post, made soon after he was left out of the new cabinet, has triggered widespread discussion in political circles. In his post, Patil said he would remain forever grateful for the love, trust and affection reposed in him by the people. "The path of those committed to principles is always difficult. Let us accept the high command's decision," he wrote. The remarks have fuelled speculation that the veteran leader was expressing disappointment over missing out on a cabinet berth.

KHADER'S RETURN TO CABINET KINDLES CONG REVIVAL HOPES IN DAKSHINA KANNADA

The return of UT Khader to the state cabinet has rekindled hopes among Congress workers in Dakshina Kannada, who believe his presence in the government will strengthen both the party organisation and development initiatives in the district. For many Congress workers, Khader's induction marks the return of the party's most influential leader in the region to active executive politics. His tenure as Assembly Speaker had restricted his involvement in party affairs due to the constitutional neutrality attached to the office. Several Congress leaders felt that his absence from frontline politics had affected the party's ability to effectively challenge the BJP in its coastal stronghold. There is also an expectation within the party that Khader could be entrusted with the responsibility of district in-charge minister for Dakshina Kannada. Party leaders believe this would give the district a stronger voice in the government and help accelerate development projects. Congress workers point out that even in the previous Siddaramaiah cabinet, when Dinesh Gundu Rao served as district in-charge minister, Khader played an important role in matters related to the district's development. Congress leader Santosh Kumar Shetty said as a minister, Khader would be able to contribute more directly to strengthening the party in Dakshina Kannada. (Vincent D'Souza @ Mangaluru)

Dr YATHINDRA WILL GIVE FRESH VOICE TO DAD SIDDARAMAIAH's HOME TURF MYSURU

Though senior Congress leaders from Mysuru—Dr HC Mahadevappa and Venkatesh—failed to find their names in the first list of ministers, Congress MLC Dr Yathindra Siddaramaiah took oath as a minister in the DK Shivakumar cabinet. Dr Yathindra is set to emerge as Mysuru region's principal representative in the State Government following the end of his father Siddaramaiah's tenure as CM. The MLC's elevation is considered as a move to ensure continuity of Mysuru's influence in the corridors of power while simultaneously promoting a younger generation of Congress leadership. A qualified pathologist by profession, Yathindra has steadily strengthened his position within the party. His appointment is being seen as recognition of his growing political stature and his role in strengthening the Congress in Old Mysuru. His elevation will provide a fresh voice from Siddaramaiah's political home turf within the Cabinet. (Karthik KK @ Mysuru)



Krishna Byre Gowda (53)
A six-time MLA, Krishna Byre Gowda represents Byatarayanapura constituency. He was revenue minister in the dissolved cabinet and had earlier held RDPR and agriculture portfolios



Priyank Kharge (47)
Son of AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge, he was Electronics, IT/BT and rural development & panchayat raj minister in the previous cabinet. The three-time MLA from Chittapur in Kalaburgi district had earlier served as social welfare minister



UT Khader (56)
Officiated as 17th Speaker of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly, stepped down to rejoin the cabinet. Has represented Mangaluru constituency five consecutive terms, served as health minister earlier



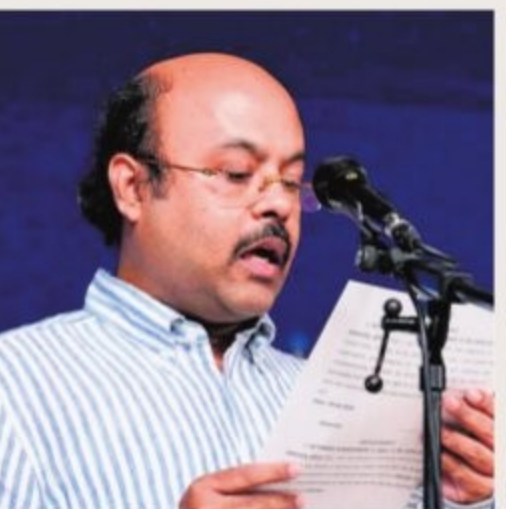
Eshwar B Khandre (64)
The Lingayat strongman held forest, ecology and environment portfolio in the previous cabinet. Four-time MLA from Bhalki in Bidar district, has served as minister for municipal administration and public enterprises



Byrathi Suresh (53)
Was urban development minister in the Siddaramaiah cabinet, has represented Hebbal constituency in Bengaluru as MLA twice in a row



Sharan Prakash Patil (59)
Served as minister for medical education and skill development in the last government; has been elected four times from Sedam constituency in Kalaburgi district



Yathindra Siddaramaiah (45)
Elected from Varuna constituency in Mysuru in 2018, subsequently moved to the Legislative Council and became caretaker of Varuna, his father Siddaramaiah's constituency

In BC outreach, Hariprasad gets KPCC chief post

Siddu backing proves crucial against Satish

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@Bengaluru

WEDNESDAY proved to be an action-packed day for Congress in Karnataka. Hours after DK Shivakumar took charge as chief minister, the party high command announced 71-year-old veteran leader and MLC BK Hariprasad as president of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC). He was the CWC permanent invitee and party in charge of Haryana. Now, both CM and party chief posts are with leaders from Bengaluru.

Even as Shivakumar resigned as party chief earlier in the morning, there was a buzz that Hariprasad could replace him, which eventually proved to be right with the official announcement in the evening. With this, the high command has given the reins of both the government and the organisation to the party's thoroughbred leaders.



This is, however, a setback for minister Satish Jarkiholi, an ST Nayaka, who was nurturing dreams of holding both a minister's and party chief posts, leading the party to the 2028 Assembly polls. His supporters had been campaigning for Satish to become KPCC president and projecting him to be the next chief minister. But former CM Siddaramaiah reportedly backed Hariprasad in a changed scenario.

A four-time Rajya Sabha member, Hariprasad has good equations with the Gandhi family and is considered a close confidant of Congress Parliamentary Party chief Sonia Gandhi. The firebrand leader is known for taking on RSS over

its ideology, sparking controversies at times earlier.

Hariprasad hails from the traditional toddy-tapping Ediga community, also known as Billavas in the coastal region. His elevation is interpreted as the Grand Old Party's outreach to the backward classes to compensate for the exit of former CM Siddaramaiah, a backward Kuruba leader.

The high command has ensured Hariprasad continues as MLC as the party picked him as one of the four nominees for the June 18 polls to elect seven MLCs from the Assembly. Furthering its backward class outreach, the party has nominated AICC secretary, Kerala in-charge, PV Mohan, also a Billava, Siddaramaiah loyalist Malavalli Shivanna, a Kuruba, and AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge's supporter Thimmanna Kamakanuru, a Koli community leader, who was to retire on June 25.

"Heartfelt congratulations to our dear B.K. Hariprasad, who has been appointed as the new President of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee. I am confident that your ideological commitment, long-standing political experience, party loyalty, and life of struggle will lead the state Congress party in a new direction. I wish you success in your efforts to strengthen the Congress party and awaken the people of the state against anti-democratic forces. The work of D.K. Shivakumar, who has so competently led the state Congress party until now, is also commendable. My congratulations to him as well", Siddaramaiah posted on 'X'.

HE'LL DO THE BEST FOR PEOPLE OF KARNATAKA: WIFE USHA

The newly sworn-in Chief Minister DK Shivakumar's wife Usha Shivakumar, said: "I'm feeling happy. Let him do the best for the people of Karnataka. He will do all the best. Whatever he has to do, whatever... He has kept it in his mind. He'll do everything it takes for the best of the people of Karnataka", Usha Shivakumar told reporters. She along with her daughter Aishwarya DKS Hegde, former CM late S M Krishna's wife Prema Krishna and other family members were among the frontline guests at the oath-taking ceremony

VISITS EX-PM GOWDA AND BSY BEFORE TAKING OATH

Earlier in the day, Shivakumar called on former PM and JD(S) supremo H D Deve Gowda, an undisputed Vokkaliga leader, and sought the latter's blessings. He also called on former CM B S Yediyurappa, Veerashaiva Lingayat strongman. These gestures earned him a lot of appreciation in the political circle

SONIA GREETES NEW CM

Congress supremo Sonia Gandhi on Wednesday called CM-designate DK Shivakumar and wished him well. "Take everyone together. I have unwavering confidence that you will lead Karnataka successfully. Handle the new responsibility competently. May you be successful in the future," Sonia Gandhi reportedly said

POWER DRESSING

Shivakumar was dressed in a beige silk jubba and a shawl featuring the tricolour of the Congress party. He wore a 'rudraksha mala' around his neck and had applied sacred ash on his forehead



DK Shivakumar bows down on the steps of Vidhana Soudha on arriving from Lok Bhavan with Dr Sharan Prakash Patil after taking oath as Chief Minister on Wednesday; Before his swearing-in, Shivakumar met BJP leader and former CM BS Yediyurappa and JD(S) patriarch and former PM HD Deve Gowda at their residences in Bengaluru and sought their blessings | VINOD KUMAR T, EXPRESS



FLURRY OF APPOINTMENTS AFTER SWEARING-IN



Atheeq LK, Financial Advisor to CM

Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Wednesday appointed retired IAS officer Atheeq LK as his financial advisor. Atheeq, who had served as additional chief secretary to former chief minister Siddaramaiah, will continue as chairman of the Bengaluru Business Corridor



Tushar Girinath, Additional Chief Secretary to CM

Tushar Girinath appointed additional chief secretary to the CM. He will continue to hold concurrent charge as additional chief secretary of the urban development department. Girinath had served as commissioner of erstwhile Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike



Rajendra Cholan, Managing Director, KPCL

Rajendra Cholan appointed secretary to the CM. Cholan was secretary to Shivakumar when he was DCM. He will hold concurrent charge as managing director of Karnataka Power Corporation Ltd, replacing Gaurav Gupta. He is also commissioner of Bengaluru Central City Corporation

AJJAYYA, SHIVAKUMAR'S GUIDING FORCE IN LIFE

Bengaluru: Saint Veera Gangadhara Ajjayya, revered by devotees of the Sri Kadasiddeshwara Mutt, holds a special place in the heart and mind of Chief Minister DK Shivakumar. A long-time devotee of the mutt, popularly known as Ajjayya Mutt, Shivakumar invoking the saint's name after reaching the pinnacle of his political career would not come as a surprise to those who know him as he has followed the same practice on previous occasions. The mutt, located at Nonavinakere near Tiptur in Tumakuru district, belongs to the Veerashaiva-Lingayat tradition and is an important spiritual centre in the region. A prominent Vokkaliga leader, Shivakumar has often spoken about his deep faith in Ajjayya, who he considers a guiding force in his life. He regularly visited the mutt in Tumakuru as well as its Bengaluru branch during important moments in his political career. He has credited the saint's blessings for helping him overcome personal and political challenges. **ENS**

IN STEPPING DOWN, HE ROSE HIGHER

INDIAN polity has seen many leaders demit office midway through their tenure amid bickering, bruised egos and bitter confrontations. Siddaramaiah's decision to make way for DK Shivakumar, in keeping with an understanding reached with the Congress high command, had generated immense curiosity across the country. Many expected a confrontation that could weaken the Congress.

However, Siddaramaiah disappointed those expectations. Displaying rare statesmanship, and much against his carefully cultivated image of a tough political strategist, he stunned critics by handing over the baton with a smile and warm hug to Shivakumar and Rahul Gandhi. For perhaps the first time in recent political history, an outgoing chief minister stepping down midway through his tenure shared a cordial lunch and friendly banter with those who had worked to bring his political innings as chief minister to a close.

Siddaramaiah remained stoic after being informed by the party high command that he would have to step down. This was despite the fact that a majority of ministers, MLAs and party leaders appealed to him, and some

even demanded that he assert himself and not sacrifice his position. He refused to utter a single word of protest. Instead, he simply said, "Thank you. I will not go back on my word," and quietly left the hall.

By the end of the day, he had even succeeded in convincing some of his ardent admirers to accept the decision.

The Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting that formally endorsed the transition, witnessed scenes rarely seen in Indian politics. Members gave the Mysuru stalwart a standing ovation as he entered the Vidhana Soudha hall to step down from the CLP leadership, a position he had held for 18 long years.

AICC General Secretary (Organisation) KC Venugopal said the Congress family salutes Siddaramaiah for his rare gesture, which had set a new benchmark in Indian politics.

The meeting was packed with emotion as senior leaders praised the AHINDA champion for his commitment to social justice and welfare-oriented governance, assuring that his flagship programmes would continue.

"The Congress will not allow

Siddaramaiah to rest," Venugopal remarked, indicating that the party would continue to use his experience and leadership.

Siddaramaiah's stature has risen several notches following his decision to step down. This became evident when he arrived in Delhi immediately after tendering his resignation. The warmth and affection he received from the Gandhi family, the AICC president, and other senior leaders reflected the regard he now commands within the party.

The Congress leadership is expected to involve him more closely in shaping national-level strategies and strengthening the party's efforts against the BJP. The entire episode appears to have had a positive impact on his successor Shivakumar as well, who seemed visibly moved and softened by the developments.

Though the curtains are down on the Siddaramaiah era as chief minister, recent events suggest he will remain a force to reckon with in shaping and guiding both the government and the state's political landscape. Most ministers and MLAs continue to look up to him

as their leader.

Many believe the Siddaramaiah-Shivakumar partnership will continue to play a decisive role in future electoral battles, even if Siddaramaiah is no longer the face of the party.

The Gesture

The gesture proved deeply emotional even for political veterans such as Sonia Gandhi, Mallikarjun Kharge, Rahul Gandhi and other senior Congress leaders. Siddaramaiah's mature conduct drew admiration across the political spectrum and contrasted sharply with the acrimonious exits often witnessed in Indian politics. Even in the final act, the outgoing chief minister walked away as a winner, choosing to leave on his own terms. He reportedly declined offers of a Rajya Sabha berth and a larger national role, preferring to remain rooted in Karnataka politics.

In one of the most touching moments of the transition, Chief Minister-designate DK Shivakumar, overcome with emotion, sought Siddaramaiah's blessings by touching his feet -- a gesture rarely seen in such political circumstances. It symbolised not only respect for a senior leader but also the spirit in which the leadership transition was carried out.

(The views are personal)



K SHIVAKUMAR
Senior journalist and Member of Legislative Council

DIRECT RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the following positions in Dakshina Kannada Growers Organic Collective Farmer Producer Company Limited, a company registered under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India. The company is expanding its operations and opening new branches at Bangalore, Hassan, Mysore, Shivamogga, Mangalore, Moodbidri, Kundapura, Surathkal, Karkala & Udipi. Available Positions : Manager, Assistant Manager, Cash Officer, Loan Officer Customer Service Officer, Field Collection Officer. Total Vacancies : 65 Positions Salary : Rs. 18,500 to Rs. 45,000 per month (based on qualification and experience) Employee Benefits : ESI, PF. Eligibility : Candidates from all districts of Karnataka are eligible to apply. Last Date for Application : 20-06-2026. Contact : S. Satish Nayak +91 99804 96533, +91 94486 27226 Interested candidates are requested to apply on or before the last date.

THE ALL-NEW



STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH THE LATEST NEWS

कार्यालय नगर विकास न्यास, अलवर (राज.)

क्रमांक : लेखा/2026/ दिनांक : 27/05/2026
NOTICE INVITING NIT - 05/2026-27
Repairing of Bondary Wall, Construction of Road Side Rain Water Harvesting, Making Of Fixing sign board, ganetry board, flex banner, paver finisher, beautification of lal diggi and other construction Alwar. 29-05-2026 To 17-06-2026 3.00 PM. Technical bid open 18-06-2026 4.00 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state and www.uitalwar.in. The approximate Value of the procurement is Rs. 700.42 lakhs.
UBN No. : UAL2627WSOB00058 To UAL2627WSOB00071
Raj.Samwadi/C/26/4096 Executive Engineer
UIT Alwar

Government of Karnataka

Public Works Department
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Mysuru Division, Mysuru.

E-mail: eeppwdmvs21@gmail.com Phone No. & Fax No. 0821-2420810

IFT No. 36/2025-26/3rd Call Dt.01.06.2026

ITEM WISE SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, Executive Engineer, Public Works Department has published item wise Tender notification for RECONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGE AT CH 35.20 KMAT SRIRANGAPATNA TO MALE MAHADESHWARA HILL ROAD (SH-79) IN T NARASIPURA TALUK work approved under H/A: 5054-80-190-0-01-132 KRDCL-Capital Expenses with KW-4 Conditions & Regulations with Two cover systems. The Minimum Amount Put to Tender is Rs.201.59 Lakhs and EMD amount is Rs.3.02 Lakhs. Pre bid Meeting will be held in the undersigned office at 11.00 A.M on 05.06.2026. Tenders shall be Submitted in KPP-Portal (<https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>) from 01.06.2026 to 09.06.2026 within 17.00 PM. Period for completion 09 months (including monsoon) Only eligible KPWD Contractor Registered in the KPP-Portal shall participate. More details can be obtained from the office of the under Signed during office hours. Any amendments or modifications in tender notification will be published in KPP-Portal Only. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Public Work Department Mysuru Division, Mysuru
DIPR/DDMYS/255/KSMCA/182/2026-27

Chairman of Bengaluru Business Corridor L K Atheeq said the state government spends nearly Rs 1 lakh crore annually on social justice guarantee schemes, subsidies and pension commitments.

MADRAS HC NAMES APPAVU WINNER OF '16 RADHAPURAM POLL

Sets aside victory of AIADMK's Inbadurai

R SIVAKUMAR @ Chennai

SETTING aside the victory of AIADMK's IS Inbadurai in the 2016 polls in Radhapuram Assembly constituency, the Madras High Court has declared DMK leader and former speaker of the Assembly M Appavu as winner.

The court also directed the Assembly Secretary to make changes in the records by entering the name of Appavu as the representative of the constituency for this period. However, he added, the improper declaration is not attributable to the conduct of Inbadurai and this order will not disqualify him in any manner except claiming any pensionary benefits of being a member of the Assembly for 2016-2021. Based on his 2016 election petition, the court ordered recounting of postal ballots and a certain number of EVM recorded votes which was done in the premises of the court but the outcome was not disclosed due to a stay issued by the Supreme Court against declaring the results.

The main contention of Appavu was that 403 postal ballots were rejected and the reasons were not stated by the officials. But his contention was countered by Inbadurai stating that

these postal ballots were attested by middle school head masters who are not gazetted officers.

Justice Jayachandran, in his order said firstly, the report filed on recounting had a damning disclosure that the election petitioner-Appavu had received 153 votes in his favour whereas Inbadurai, who was declared as elected, got only one vote out of 403 postal votes and 44 votes were declared invalid.

"This is conclusive that the election petitioner (Appavu) had won the election by a margin of 104 votes," he said. Recalling that the Supreme Court had not stayed the ruling of the High Court that head masters of middle schools are gazetted officers, the judge said, therefore the postal ballots attested by them are valid votes.

Referring to the Supreme Court's observation that no purpose would be served by adjudicating the matter due to lapse of time and the tenure of elected representative was over, the judge said, "With great respect, the apex court would have answered this question since this court has already, as a trial court, given a finding in respect of the above said question (of powers of middle school head masters to attest)," he said.



WALL OF PASSION

Football fans display a giant flex board of the Argentine national team in Thiruvananthapuram ahead of the FIFA World Cup | BP DEEPU

Waqf board eyes reclaiming properties in Taliparamba

LAKSHMI ATHIRA @Malappuram

EVEN as the Munambam land dispute has been stirring a political storm in the state, the Kerala Waqf Board is turning its attention to Taliparamba, where efforts have begun to identify and reclaim waqf properties spread across some of the town's most prominent areas.

The said land reportedly houses government institutions, including Taliparamba municipal office, and commercial buildings. As a first step,

the board has begun collecting documents related to waqf properties allegedly encroached upon or occupied by private parties in Taliparamba.

Waqf Board Chairman K S Hamza told *TNIE* that board members will soon visit Taliparamba to assess the situation on the ground. He said the board has decided to intervene in all disputed waqf land issues, including in Taliparamba, with the aim to reclaim properties. According to the board, nearly 634 acres of waqf land exist in Taliparamba.

TTD ghee case: ED raids dairy companies, directors, seizes ₹60L

AGENCIES @Hyderabad

THE Enforcement Directorate on Wednesday conducted searches at 15 places, including Dehradun, Delhi, Dindigul in Tamil Nadu, Guntur in Andhra Pradesh and Mumbai in connection with the alleged TTD Ghee adulteration fraud case.

The searches covered the residential and office premises of directors of A R Dairy Food Pvt Ltd in Dindigul, Malganga Milk & Agro Products Pvt. Ltd., Ahilyanagar and Bhole Baba Organic Dairy Milk Pvt Ltd., in Roorkee, an official release from the central investigating agency said. During the search operations, cash amounting to Rs 60 lakh was seized. The raids also led to disclosures regarding in-



vestments of Proceeds of Crime (PoC) in properties valued at more than Rs 45 crore, apart from details of several immovable properties held in the names of the accused persons and their family members

The ED initiated an investigation under the PMLA, 2002, based on an FIR registered against A R Dairy Food and others. It is alleged that the accused persons, in conspiracy with certain Tirumala Tirupati Dev-

asthanams officials, committed criminal breach of trust, cheating, and caused wrongful loss to the temple body by supplying adulterated ghee.

The investigation conducted so far revealed that the Proceeds of Crime generated through the supply of adulterated ghee to TTD were subsequently invested in immovable properties through a complex web of interconnected legal entities and business concerns to conceal the illicit origin of funds, it added. Earlier this year, the SIT, which investigated the case, filed the final charge sheet in Nellore ACB Court, naming 36 people as accused, including nine TTD officials, five dairy experts and others in the ghee adulteration case.

EXPRESS READ

'No place for regional animosity in democracy'

VIJAYAWADA: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday said attempts to revive regional animosity between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana would not succeed as people of the sibling states are mature enough to recognise who has contributed to development and public welfare. Responding to remarks of some Telangana leaders against Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan, he said such statements were unnecessary. "It has been 12 years since the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh. We have moved forward as two separate states," he said. **ENS**

Kharge approves four candidates for K'taka Legislative Council polls

EXPRES NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge has approved four candidates for the Karnataka Legislative Council elections from the MLA quota. The nominees are BK Hariprasad who has also been appointed PCC president, the others are Thippanna Kamakanoor, PV Mohan, and Malavalli Shivanna. With Congress enjoying a comfortable majority in the Assembly, all four candidates are expected to win, strengthening the party's position in the Legislative Council taking the numbers to 41 in the 75 member house. The move is seen as a major boost for the newly formed DK Shivakumar government, helping it secure smoother passage of legislation. The inclusion of senior leader BK Hariprasad reflects the party's efforts to reward experienced leaders and maintain internal unity. Political observers view the nominations as part of Congress's strategy to consolidate power in Karnataka and strengthen its hold over both Houses of the state legislature. **ENS**

SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF TELANGANA LIMITED
e-Procurement Tender Notice (Paper Notification)
TGSPDCL intends to float tender for procurement of (a) 15 Mtrs/500 Kgs Spun Poles to Various circles of TGSPDCL (b) New Transformer Oil (c) 11 KV 3X35 sq.mm TR-XLPE US Cable (d) Polycarbonate seal tile (Yellow) (e) 33KV 3x400Sqmm Heat shrinkable straight through Joining Kits (f) 11 KV 3X300Sqmm Heat shrinkable outdoor end termination kits (g) 1-Pin (5-30A) Electronic Energy Meters DLMS & IRDA Port with and without PP Box (h) 11 KV 315 KVA DTRs (i) 11 KV 500 KVA DTRs on e-procurement platform. For further details of each item above, please visit www.tgspowerpower.org, www.tender.telangana.gov.in, www.auction.telangana.gov.in, Phone:040-23431360, 1033, 1035, 1026 Sd/-CHIEF ENGINEER (P&MM) DIPR R.O.No.191-PPICL-AGENCY/ADVT/2026-27 Dt: 03-06-2026 TGSPDCL, Hyderabad

Government of Karnataka
KARNATAKA SCHOOL EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT BOARD
6th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560 003
No: KSEAB/DPU/TS/MCT/1/2026-BSEC/90134 Date: 03-06-2026

e-TENDER NOTIFICATION
The Director, P.U.Examinations, Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board, hereby invites tenders from eligible bidders for the "Supply of various types of pre-printed pass certificates, along with, resizing/portrait orientation/cropping of photos, over printing of variable data of the same pertaining to 2026 Second PU examination" as per K.T.P.P. Act 1999 and K.T.P.P. Rules, 2000 through e-procurement portal only. Tender document may be downloaded from Board website: <https://kseab.karnataka.gov.in> or e-procurement website: <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> Tender commences on 03.06.2026, Tender pre-bid meeting on 06.06.2026 at 11.30 AM in the office of the Director, P.U Exams, last date for submission 10.06.2026 at 5.00 PM, opening of technical bid on 12.06.2026 at 11.30 AM, opening of commercial bid tentatively on 15.06.2026 at 11.30 AM, approximate value of tender is Rs. 19,65,000/-, tender EMD is Rs. 39,300/-. Further details can be obtained from the Board during office hours.
Sd/- Director, P U Exams.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No. CEE/T&P/SE-1/2026-27/2174-86 Date : 02.06.2026
BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

KPTCL invites Bids on electronic mode for the following works against following enquiry numbers on Partial Turnkey basis.

Sl No.	Enquiry numbers & Name of the Works
1	KPTCL/2026-27/SS/WORK_INDENT3808 Establishing 2x12.5MVA, 66/11kV sub-station at Paduvalahippe Village with associated 66kV LILO line for a distance of 1.520kms in Holenarasipura Taluk, Hassan District.
2	KPTCL/2026-27/SS/WORK_INDENT3809 Establishing 2x20MVA, 66/11kV sub-station at Kumbenahally Village with associated 66kV LILO line for a distance of 0.07kms in Channarayana Taluk, Hassan District.
3	KPTCL/2026-27/SS/WORK_INDENT3810 Establishing 2x20MVA, 66/11kV sub-station at Guddenahalli (Kodagihalli) with associated 66kV LILO line for a distance of 6.663 kms in Alur Taluk, Hassan District.

The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The details regarding participation in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website <https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in> with hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> on or after 08.06.2026 @ 15:00hrs. Last date & time for receipt of bids and any extension of due date for bid submission will be intimated in the KPP Portal. Any details required in this regard can also be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

All Corrigendum/Addendums shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission of the bids.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Electy.), Tendering & Procurement, KPTCL, 9th Floor, Indhana Bhavana, A.R Circle, Bengaluru-560 009.

KERALA HEALTH RESEARCH & WELFARE SOCIETY
(An Institution fully owned by the Government of Kerala)
Registered Office : General Hospital Campus, Red Cross Road, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 035, Ph : 0471 - 2300377
No. A3-2245/21/KHRWS Date: 03-06-2026
E-Tender Notice

Tenders are invited from renowned and experienced distributor/manufactures to supply equipment for Molecular Lab being set up by KHRWS at Thiruvananthapuram. Tender details are available from KHRWS Head Office and from the websites www.khrws.kerala.gov.in and www.etenders.kerala.gov.in. Last date of online submission of tenders is 29.06.2026.

Sd/- Managing Director
Thiruvananthapuram

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(Public Works Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department, Division: Yadgir.
GSTIN:29BLR002252F1DR
No.EE/PWD/Divn/YDG/TS-1&2/e-Tender/2026-27/ 528 Dated: 03-06-2026
Short Term e-Tender Notification
1) Details of works: On behalf of Governor of Karnataka as per KPPP Amendment 1999-2000 Act 2000 Standard Bid Document KW-2,3 & 4 Karnataka Public Works Department invited item Rate Tender under KPPP Portal in Two Cover System from Eligible Agency/Contractors for following works Under KKRDB for the year 2025-26 Under Yadgir Taluka-(1)36181, ShahapurTaluka-(1)35311/Call-2 and Shorapur Taluka-(1)35967, Total 3 (Three) works Tender Called 2) Amount Put to Tender: Minimum Rs 50.00 Lakhs and Maximum Rs.500.00 Lakhs 3) Contractor Eligible Details:Civil Class-III & Above 4) Tender Processing Fee and EMD Details: Tender Fee, EMD & Period as per kppp portal, 5) Last Date & Time for Tender Pre-Bid Meeting: 06.06.2026 (11.30 hrs Onwards)(For KW-4 Works Only) 6) Last Date & Time for Tender queries/Clarification: 09.06.2026 (Upto 17.30 hrs) 7) Last Date & Time for Receipt of the tender in e-KPPP portal:12.06.2026 (Upto 16.00 hrs) 8) Date & Time of Opening of the Tender/Technical Bid: 15.06.2026 (11.30 hrs Onwards) 9) Date & Time of Opening of the Financial Bid: 17.06.2026 (11.30 hrs Onwards) 10) For More Details Contact: Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division: Yadgir. 11) Website Address: <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>
NOTE: Any Corrections / Changes will be updated in the kppp Portal only
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division, Yadgir.
DIP/YDG/98/KSMC&A/2026-27

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು
ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 06/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ:30-05-2026
ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಉಪವಿಭಾಗಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಡುವ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ : 5054-03-101-0-02-132 ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ರಸ್ತೆ ಸೇತುವೆಗಳು - ಬಂಡವಾಳ ವೆಚ್ಚ, 5054-80-190-0-01-132 ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಸ್ತೆ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ-ಬಂಡವಾಳ ವೆಚ್ಚ (ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮುಖ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆ ಸೇತುವೆಗಳು), 8443-00-117-0-16-542 ಠೇವಣಿ ವಂತಿಕೆ (SDMF) 5054-80-190-0-01-132 ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಸ್ತೆ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ (ಕಾಲುಸಂಕ), 5054-03-337-0-17-154 ರಾಜ್ಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿಗಳ ಸುಧಾರಣೆ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಒಟ್ಟು 04 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಹಾಗೂ 04 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಮ್ಯಾನ್ಯುಯಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ವಹಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಅಥವಾ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿರುವ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ (Standard Tender Document KW - 1, 3 & 4 ರಂತೆ) ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಲಗತ್ತಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 3ರಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಅರ್ಹತೆಗಳೆಲ್ಲರೇ ಮಾತ್ರ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 1.80 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 999.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಆಗಿರುತ್ತವೆ. ಮ್ಯಾನ್ಯುಯಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06-06-2026 ರಿಂದ 08-06-2026 ರವರೆಗೆ ನಿಗದಿತ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಪಾವತಿಸಿ ಮಾಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಕೋರಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು. ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12-06-2026ರಂದು ಮಾಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಪಡೆದು, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15-06-2026ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ರವರೆಗೆ ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು ಹಾಗೂ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕಿರುವ 03 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ (ಇ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 36191, 36087 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06-06-2026, ಇ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:36194 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 11-06-2026, ಇ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:35934 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29-06-2026 ರಂದು) ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಷಯ ನಿರ್ವಾಹಕರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ತಿಳಿಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.
ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು

QuoteExpress
PROBLEMS ARE NOT STOP SIGNS, THEY ARE GUIDELINES
ROBERT H SCHULLER

Government of Karnataka
BIDAR CITY CORPORATION BIDAR
Phone: 08482-240432 Fax: 08482-240432
Web Site:www.bidarcity.mrc.gov.in E-mail ID:istaff_urb-bidar@yahoo.com, ka.bidar.cmc@gmail.com
No: BMC/ENG/CR-261/2025-26 Dated:- 03-06-2026.
TENDER NOTIFICATION
1) Name of work DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT56970 DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT57997, 2) Estimated cost As per Kppp portal, 3) Eligibility of Agency / Consultant As per Kppp portal, 4) EMD amount As per Kppp portal, 5) Pre bid meeting date 24-06-2026 at 11.00 AM, 6) Last date for submission of tender 06-07-2026 upto 04.00 PM 7) Technical bid opening 07-07-2026 at 04.30 PM, 8) Address for communication Commissioner, City Municipal Corporation Bidar, Pin code 585401, Email : istaff_urb_bidar@yahoo.com 08482-240432, 9) Website <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/>
Sd/- Commissioner
City Municiple Corporation,Bidar
DIPR/Bidar/46/KSMC&A/2026-27

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ರಾಜ್ಯೀಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಅಭಿಯಾನ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಯೋಜನಾ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ
#305, ಮಾರನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತ ಭವನ, ಶ್ರೀ ಜಿ.ರಾಜಯ್ಯ ಜೋಡಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ - 571313
Email ID: dpdochamarajanagar@gmail.com
ದೂರ: 08226-355162
DHS/CPHC-UHC/CHN/01/2026-27 Dated: 01-06-2026
E-Tender Announcement
(Only through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal)
Tenders have been invited from eligible organizations on the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for the supply of Drugs required for various health institution in Chamarajanagar District for the year 2026-2027 under the National Health Mission 15th Finance Commission tender form, EMD Fees and more Information About the tender can be viewed on the website [www.https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in](https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)
Tender Number: DHFWS/2026-27/IND2498

Name of the Tender	:	To Purchase of Drugs required for Various health institution in Chamarajanagar under the 15th Finance Commission
Date and time for commencement of downloading of bidding document	:	Date: 01-06-2026 Time:10:30AM
Pre Bid Meeting	:	Date: 09-06-2026 Time: 11:00AM
Last date and time for bid submission/ uploading of bid in E-Procurement platform	:	Date: 16.06.2026 Time: 04.00PM
Date and time for opening of Technical Bids	:	Date: 17.06.2026 Time: 4.10 PM
Date and time for opening of Financial Bids	:	Date: 19.06.2026 Time: 11:00AM
Place of opening of bids and address for communication	:	District Health & Family Welfare Office, Chamarajanagar

Sd/-
Member Secretary
District Health & Family Welfare Society,
Chamarajanagar District, Chamarajanagar.
NO: DIPR:CHANAGAR: 148:2026-27

SOUTHERN RAILWAY					
(Signal & Telecom Branch / Tiruchirappalli Division)					
E-Tender Notice No: T-SG-36-I-3-2026-027 Dt: 02.06.2026.					
The Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, Southern Railway, Tiruchirappalli Division invites online tender on behalf of The President of India, for the following works up to 14.00 hrs on 24.06.2026					
Item No.	Tender Notice No.		Name of the Work		
1.	T-SG-36-I-3-2026-027		Provision of Integrated Passenger Information System (IPIS) at Tiruchirappalli Junction (TPJ) station.		
Item No.	Cash Value in Lakhs of Rupees	Earnest Money Deposit Amt	Validity Offer	Closing Date and Time	Period of Completion in months
1.	Rs.435.11 Lakhs	Rs.870,200.00/-	60 Days	on 24.06.2026 @14:00 Hrs	Six Months



Chola

Enter a better life

CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED
 Corporate Office : CHOLA CREST " C 54 & 55, Super B - 4,
 Thiru Vi Ka Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032.
 Branch : No. 74/12, HV Arcade, 2nd Floor, Sy. No. 75/12,
 Bagalur Road, Hosur - 635109

POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (1) (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited**, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 hereinafter called the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13[12] read with Rules 3 of the Security Interest [Enforcement] Rules, 2002 issued under notice calling upon the borrowers, whose names have been indicated in Column [B] below on dates specified in Column [C] to repay the outstanding amount indicated in Column [D] below with interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers in particular and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken **symbolic possession** of the properties mortgaged with the Company described in Column [E] herein below on the

respective dates mentioned in Column [F] in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13[4] of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Rules made there under. The borrowers in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties mentioned in Column [E] below and any such dealings will be subject to the charge of **M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited** for an amount mentioned in Column [D] along with interest and other charges.

Under section 13 [8] of the Securitisation Act, the borrowers can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstanding including all costs, charges and expenses before notification of sale.

Sl. No.	Loan A/c. Name & Address of Borrower	Date of Demand notice	Outstanding Amount	Date of Possession
1.	Loan A/c No. : HE01HOR00000065662 1) Subramani Venkatesan , Old Sy. No. 1/1, New Sy. No. 1/8, Marasur Agrahara, Bangalore, Karnataka - 562106. 2) Nataraj Chithira , Old Sy. No. 1/1, New Sy. No. 1/8, Marasur Agrahara, Bangalore, Karnataka - 562106.	10.03.2026 10/03/2026	Rs. 59,30,698/- as on 10.03.2026 and interest thereon	03.06.2026
DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY : (Property covered under the Regd. Sale Deed Doc No. 1972/2016-17 of SRO Anekal Taluk dated 27.06.2016) All that piece and parcel of the Property Situated at Bangalore Urban District, Anekal Taluk, Kasaba Hobli, Marasuru Agrahara Village, old Sy.No.1/1, New Sy.No. 1/8, measuring 0-32 Guntas of land, which has been converted from agricultural to non-agricultural residential purpose by the Order No. ALN (A & K) SR.140/2023-24, Dated 22.12.2023 passed by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, as per Form 9 & 11, Property No.1/8, measuring 0-32 Guntas of land and bounded on : East by : Eshwara Manyala land & Prabhakar Reddy Property, West by : Road, North by : Devaraju House, South by : Eshwara Manyala land. In the midst above said land with RCC Building.				
2.	Loan A/c No. : HE01HOR00000047397 1) Ubayadullah Syed Junath, 2) Jabeenat, both are residing at : No.177, Ward No. 23, Saptagiri Layout, Near Mouluya International School, Anekal, Bangalore, Karnataka-562106. 3) Tawakkal Agencies , No.21/1, Kavalahosahalli, Near SLV Weighers, Chandapura Main Road, Bangalore, Karnataka-562106.	09.03.2026	Rs. 36,39,019/- as on 09.03.2026 and interest thereon	03.06.2026
DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY : (Property covered under the Regd. Sale Deed Doc No. 7743/2017-18, Dated 16.03.2018 of SRO Anekal) All that piece and parcel of the vacant property bearing Site No.173, Old Janjur No.177, New Katha No.150200102401000538, V.P. Katha No.SAP/17/1177, measuring East to West 40 Feet (12.192 mtrs) and North to South: 30 Feet (9.144) Totally measuring 1200 Sq. Feet with 111.48 Sq. mtrs RCC roofed house flooring mosaic, door & windows jungle wood, with bricks, property formed in the layout known as "SAPTAGIRI LAYOUT" Situated at Anekal Village, Hemphalaghada Village comes under Samandude Village Panchayath, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, carved out of Sy.No.208, measuring 6-00 Acres of Anekal Taluk, has been converted for non-agricultural residential use vide Conversion Order No. B.Dis ALN, SR.(A).81/2003-04, Dated 06.05.2003, Issued by Deputy Commissioner of Bangalore District and Bounded on : East by : 20 Feet Layout Road, West by : Site No.184, North by : Site No.178, South by : Site No.176.				

Date : 03.06.2026
 Place : Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited



MID CORPORATE CENTRE – BANGALORE
#100, Mosque Road, Frazer Town, Bangalore-560002
Email Id: mcc6325@pnb.bank.in

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Movable and Immovable Property)

A/C: 1251008700003739 & 125100EG00000232, B/O: BANGALORE PEENYA INDUSTRIAL ESTATE (125100)

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of the **Punjab National Bank** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of Powers conferred under Section 13 read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice dated **10.02.2026** calling upon **M/S Winzai Apparels Pvt Ltd, Mr.Rohitkumar Rangan Dube (Director), Mr.Bhagirath S Gouda (Director), Mr.Sunil Nair Guarantor), Mrs.Vaijayanti P Karnik (Mortgagor), Mrs.Jayavanti Prasad Kapre (Mortgagor) and Mr.Pravin Tulshiram Kale (Mortgagor)** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.10,69,26,659.79 (Rupees Ten Crores Sixty Nine Lakhs Twenty Six Thousand six hundred and fifty nine and Paise seventy nine only)** being the dues as on **09.02.2026** until payment in full within 60 days from the date of notice/date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/mortgagor/guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this **29th day of May 2026**. The date of acknowledgement of 13(2) notice is **21.02.2026**.

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank for an amount of **Rs.10,69,26,659.79 (Rupees Ten Crores Sixty Nine Lakhs Twenty Six Thousand six hundred and fifty nine and Paise seventy nine only)** being the dues as on **09.02.2026** with interest and charges from **01.02.2026**.

The borrower/s /guarantor/s /mortgagor/s attention is invited to provisions of section 13(8) of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

To secure the outstanding under the above said facilities, you have, inter alia, created security interest in respect of the following properties/assets.

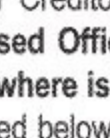
SL No.	Facility	Primary Security
1	Cash Credit	Hypothecation of Stocks of Raw material, SIP, Finished Goods, spares, entire Book Debts arising out of genuine credit sale transactions and other current assets of the Company. (Present & future)
2	Term Loan	a. Extension of Charge over entire present and future current assets of the firm/ company. b. The additional WCTL granted shall have second charge with the existing credit facilities in terms of cash flows and security, with charge on the assets financed under the Scheme c. Facility under the scheme will be secured through guarantee coverage from NCGTC.

Description of immovable property

SL	Facility	Security
1	Cash Credit and Term Loan	1. Stocks of Raw Material, SIP, Finished Goods, Spares, entire Book Debts arising out of genuine credit sale transactions and other current assets of the Company (Present & Future), Readymade Garments & Fabrics. 2. Property situated at Plot no PH-IIIC/07 in Block PH-IIIC/07 together with weekend cottage/Farm House area and one car parking space situated in Cosmos Hawain Village Phase-II, in society known as "Hawain Village Co-operative housing society Ltd, constructed on land bearing , Old Survey No. 236 New Survey No. 86, Old Survey No. 237 New Survey No. 88/1, Old Survey No. 237 New Survey No. 88/2, Old Survey No. 239 New Survey No. 85/2, Old Survey No. 242 New Survey No. 81/3, Old Survey No. 240 New Survey No. 87/1, Old Survey No. 240 New Survey No. 87/2, Old Survey No. 240 New Survey No. 87/3, Old Survey No. 240 New Survey No. 87/4, Old Survey No. 240 New Survey No. 87/5, Old Survey No. 240 New Survey No. 87/6, lying being Situated at Village Bhayanderpada, Taluka and District thane and within the limits of Thane Municipal Corporation and Sub-Registration District Thane and Registration District Thane. The scheduled property is admeasuring 8632 Sq Ft and standing in the name of Mrs. Jayvanti Kapre & Mrs. Vaijayanti P. Kamik 3. Property situated at; Flat No. 01, admeasuring area 92.34 sq.mtrs + 12.18 sq.mtrs Building No. E-24, society known as "Dream Land Co-op Housing Society Ltd" Constructed on the Land bearing Sector No. 4, lying being Situated at Village Sanpada, Tal. &Dist Thane and within the limits of Registration District & Subregistration District Thane. The scheduled property is admeasuring 1638 Sqft and undivided share of land : 515.27 Sqft and standing in the name of Mr. Pravin T. Kale

Date: 29.05.2026
Place: Bengaluru

For Punjab National Bank
Chief Manager/Authorised Officer



यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया
Union Bank of India

ATTITBELE BRANCH
Ground Floor, Hotel Victory Grand Complex,
Near Jagals Circle, Sarjapur Road,
Bengaluru - 560076

Anekal Taluk, Bangalore, Karnataka-562107.
Phone: 8928908812, Email: ubin0908819@unionbankofindia.bank.in

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for 15 days Sale of immovable secured assets under rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Union Bank of India (secured Creditor) will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "whatever there is basis" on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder:

(1) Name and address of the Borrower, Co-Appllicant and Guarantor: (1) Mr. Muruges Shy Venkatappa, (2) Mrs. Shobha H V W/o Mr. Muruges, Both are residing at: Flat No.A-303, 3rd Floor, Tower 6, Janaadhara Subha Apartments Medihalli, Mayasandra, Attibele, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-562107.

Amount due: Rs.19,30,888/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakh Thirty Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Eight Only) as on 31.03.2026 Plus interest plus costs and Expenses.

Description of Immoveable Property: SCHEDULE A PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of the immovable property in converted Sy Nos. 39/1, 39/2, 40/3 and 42/1 an extent of 11 acres 18 guntas including Kharab Land, situated at M.Medehalli, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, Bengaluru and bounded on the East by: Land in Sy No 43, West by: Road, North by: Mayasandra Gadi, South by: Land in Sy No 41.

SCHEDULE B PROPERTY : The Undivided Share, right, title, interest and claim in the Schedule 'A' Property mentioned above works out to 195 Sq Ft.

SCHEDULE C PROPERTY : Apartment No A-303, Third Floor of Tower 6, Katha No 611, Assessment No.T-6-TF-A-303, Apartment known as "JANAADHAR SHUBHA" constructed on the Schedule 'A' Property measuring 400 Sq Ft of super built-up area constructed by RCC roofed building, walls constructed by cement and bricks, preparation of doors made by Sal Wood and Aluminium windows, with Mosaic flooring with all civic amenities Presently ID No 15020011700620314 of Panchayat No 611/T-6-TF-A-303 situated at M Medahalli Mayasandra Grama Panchayat, Anekal Block, Bangalore District and bounded on the East by: Open Space and Corridor, West by: A-310, North by: A-304, South by: Open Space.

Reserve Price : Rs.10,20,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Twenty Thousand Only)
Earnest Money to be Deposited: Rs.1,02,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Two Thousand Only) as 10% of Reserve Price

2) Name and address of the Borrower, Co-Appllicant and Guarantor: (1) Mr. Chandrappa N S/o Narayanappa, (2) Mrs. Sumalatha M W/o Mr. Chandrappa, Both are residing at: Flat No.B-301, 3rd Floor, Tower 7, Janaadhara Subha Apartments Medihalli, Mayasandra, Attibele, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-562107.

Amount due: Rs. 2,66,670/- (Rupees Two Lakh Sixty Six Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Only) as on 31.03.2026 Plus interest plus costs and Expenses.

Description of Immoveable Property: SCHEDULE A PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of residentially converted lands totally measuring about 11 acres 18 guntas including Kharab Land in Survey Nos. 39/1,39/2,40/3 and 42/1 all situated at M.Medehalli, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore and bounded on the East by: Land in Sy No 43, West by: Road,North by: Mayasandra Gadi, South by: Land in Sy No 41.

SCHEDULE B PROPERTY : The Undivided Share, right, title, interest and claim in the Schedule 'A' Property mentioned above works out to 195 Sq Ft.

SCHEDULE C PROPERTY : Residential Apartment bearing No B-301, Katha No 645, Assessment No.T-7-B-301, Third Floor of Tower 7, in residential Apartment known as "JANAADHAR SHUBHA" constructed on the Schedule 'A' Property measuring 400 Sq Ft of super built-up area together with proportionate share in the common areas and other areas of common use situated at M Medahalli Mayasandra Grama Panchayat, Anekal Block, Bangalore District and bounded on the East by: Open Space, West by: A-302, North by: Open Space & stair case, South by: T-006.

Reserve Price : Rs. 10,20,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Twenty Thousand Only)
Earnest Money to be Deposited: Rs. 1,02,000/- (Rupees One lakh Two Thousand Only) 10% of Reserve Price

3) Name and address of the Borrower, Co-Appllicant and Guarantor: (1) Mr. Nagaraju S/o Gangappa, (2) Mrs. S N Geetha W/o Mr. Nagaraju, Both are residing at: Flat No.A-304, 3rd Floor, Tower 6, Janaadhara Subha Apartments Medihalli, Mayasandra, Attibele, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-562107.

Amount due: Rs. 20,16,708/- (Rupees Twenty Lakh Sixteen Thousand Seven Hundred Eight Only) as on 31.03.2026 Plus interest plus costs and Expenses.

Description of Immoveable Property: SCHEDULE A PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of the immovable property in converted Sy Nos. 39/1, 39/2,40/3 and 42/1 an extent of 11 acres 18 guntas including Kharab Land, situated at M.Medehalli, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, Bengaluru and bounded on the East by: Land in Sy No 43, West by: Road, North by: Mayasandra Gadi, South by: Land in Sy No 41.

SCHEDULE B PROPERTY : The Undivided Share, right, title, interest and claim in the Schedule 'A' Property mentioned above works out to 195 Sq Ft.

SCHEDULE C PROPERTY : Apartment No A-304, Third Floor of Tower 6, Katha No 510, Assessment No.T-6-TF-A-304, Apartment known as "JANAADHAR SHUBHA" constructed on the no Schedule 'A' Property measuring 400 Sq Ft of super built-up area together with proportionate share in the common areas and other areas of common use, along with covered car Parking Space bearing No.5 Presently ID 15020011700600668 of Panchayat No 510/T-6-TF-A-304 situated at M Medahalli Mayasandra Grama Panchayat, Anekal Block, Bangalore District and bounded on the East by: Open Space and Corridor, West by: A-309, North by: Open Space, South by: A-303.

Reserve Price : Rs. 10,20,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Twenty Thousand Only)
Earnest Money to be Deposited: Rs. 1,02,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Two Thousand Only) as 10% of Reserve Price

Date and time of E-Auction: 24.06.2026 between 12.00 PM to 5.00 PM (with 10 min unlimited auto extensions)

Last date for submission of EMD : EMD shall be deposited and Linked/Map the EMD amount with the Property ID before End of Time of Auction,
E-auction website: <https://baanet.com>

Bidders are advised to go through the website: <https://baanet.com> and <https://www.unionbankofindia.bank.in/auction-property/view-auction-property.aspx> for detailed terms and conditions of Auction Sale before submitting their bids and taking part in the E-Auction sale proceedings. To the best information and knowledge of the Authorized Officer, there is no encumbrance on the property. The interested bidder may contact the Branch Manager. Cont. No.: 8928908812 and Mail ID: ubin0908819@unionbankofindia.bank.in ascertaining the details of auction and inspection of property.

Date: 01.06.2026
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Union Bank of India.

CBSE MUST ANSWER HARD QUESTIONS POSED BY OSM CONTROVERSY

A botched transition to an on-screen marking (OSM) system for evaluating Class XII answer scripts has forced a leadership shake-up at the top of the Central Board of Secondary Education. The axe of accountability has fallen on chairman Rahul Singh and secretary Himanshu Gupta, with Lokhande Prashant Sitaram and Varun Bhardwaj appointed to replace them, respectively. OSM involves scanning of pen-and-paper answer sheets for online assessment. There was nothing wrong with the policy *per se*—such platforms work efficiently elsewhere. But the way it was implemented here left students and parents shocked and distressed.

For starters, the contract for the digital platform was awarded just 74 days before the board exam began on February 17. A pilot test in mid-January spotted plenty of bugs and suggested delaying the rollout, but the advice was ignored. The result: the first round of revaluation requests threw up blurry scanned copies, missing pages and supplementary sheets, incorrect answer books or evaluation against a different set, and unexpected drops in marks. It led to a flood of students demanding revaluation, at which stage the payment gateway demanded phantom fees. Besides, the system was found porous, potentially exposing scanned answer sheets along with evaluator and student information to hackers.

The OSM contract went to the Hyderabad-based Coempt Edu-Teck last December on the third attempt of floating the tender, with the process progressively reducing compliance specifications. Student-whistleblower Sarthak Sidhant blogged about his explosive findings after examining the tender documents on the Central Public Procurement portal, yet no corrective action was taken. He also deposed before a parliamentary standing committee in the presence of the outgoing CBSE chairman and secretary, both of whom reportedly had no clear rebuttal.

People-facing platforms abroad are subjected to intensive stress tests before they go live. Why CBSE's OSM was cleared after just one pilot test remains a mystery. The government has since constituted a one-member committee headed by S Radha Chauhan to investigate the award and procurement of services related to the OSM platform, and submit a report within a month. The CBSE could also consider returning the revaluation fee to students as a stress buster, the way the education ministry did to take the sting off the NEET-UG retest.

MAMATA MAROONED: PERIL OF PERSONA OVER PARTY

THE story unfolding in West Bengal is not only one of a party split. It is also about the rare near-isolation of a founder within the very organisation she created. The shape of things to come became apparent on Sunday, when 60 of Trinamool Congress's 80 MLAs did not turn up for a meeting called at Mamata Banerjee's house. The official turning point came on Wednesday when expelled rebel MLA Ritabrata Banerjee secured recognition from the Speaker as Leader of the Opposition after presenting proof of support from 58 party MLAs; he claimed the signatures of two more legislators would follow. The move effectively transfers control of the party's legislative wing to the rebel camp, which has requested Mamata to be its 'chief advisor'. Her loneliness is all the more conspicuous because, having lost her seat, she cannot even enter the House she once presided over.

For nearly three decades, Mamata was the most powerful force in Bengal politics. She broke from the Congress, founded the Trinamool Congress, demolished the Left Front's seemingly impregnable fortress, and built a political machine so closely identified with her personality that the party and its leader became virtually indistinguishable. Today, that equation lies shattered.

This rebellion stands apart from earlier ones. Leaders have previously been challenged, weakened, even overthrown. But rebels rarely appropriate parties to leave their founder on the margins. Sharad Pawar's loss of control over the NCP offered one such example, while the split in the Shiv Sena left Uddhav Thackeray battling a rival faction for ownership of the party's organisation and legacy. The AIADMK, too, has struggled to retain its coherence after Jayalalithaa's death, with power dispersed among competing centres rather than residing in a single, undisputed leadership. What is unfolding in West Bengal is not merely a revolt against a leader but an attempt to take control of the organisation she built and redefine it without her.

Regional parties built around charismatic individuals often appear invincible while winning elections. But success conceals organisational weakness. Internal democracy is deemed unnecessary, while succession planning often creates bitterness among some. There is, so far, nothing to suggest that external influence encouraged the "split" in Bengal. Trinamool's unravelling has been sudden and brutal because the party was never allowed to exist independent of its supreme leader. Mamata can hardly blame her enemies, because she is being undone by those who once owed their careers to her.

QUICK TAKE

CREATE YOUR OWN SERIES

ONE of India's biggest OTT platforms is going all-in for artificial intelligence. The network is planning to create wholly-machine-made period dramas after the success of a 100-episode, AI-generated epic retelling released last year. The phenomenon has taken a dizzy turn in China. *MIT Technology Review* reports that China's short-drama market, which surpassed the country's box office earnings for the first time in 2024, has embraced fully-AI-generated content. The scale of the industry's output is scary—470 AI-generated short dramas were released on average every day of January. An apt answer to such a deluge could be users themselves providing AI prompts to generate their own dramas.

THE voters' list forms the base document for polling in all electoral democracies, irrespective of the overall quality and integrity of the process. There are multiple global models for creating the electoral roll, such as compiling it from a national civil register or through enumerators. There are also countries where the onus is shifted onto the citizens, requiring them to approach registration officials.

In India, the universal adult suffrage provision of Article 326 gives constitutional protection for enrolment to adult citizens. This right is subject to certain statutory limitations by way of disqualification on the grounds of unsound mind, conviction for a few specified offences and disqualification for a person found guilty of corrupt practice in elections, apart from the disqualification for non-citizens. Under Article 324, the responsibility of enabling and empowering the citizens in availing of this sacred right is entrusted to the Election Commission.

The Constituent Assembly reposed faith in one Central Election Commission to protect the interest of people of all backgrounds. When the framing of the Constitution was under consideration, the initial proposal was to have one central election commission handling elections to the central legislature and separate commissions for elections in each province or state. The main argument for changing to a single Election Commission for all elections was that, in many places, there were people who hailed from other provinces and under a provincial election commission, such people—who did not belong to a place racially, culturally or linguistically—could face discrimination for registration on the list.

Let's look at the legal provisions under this framework. Section 21(2) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 mandates revision of the electoral roll of each constituency before every election. The same section also enables the commission to carry out annual revision of rolls even when there is no election. These revisions are to be conducted in the manner specified in the Rules (The Registration of Electors Rules, 1960).

The Rules provide that the revision of rolls under Section 21(2) shall either be an intensive revision or a summary revision. The former effectively means a de novo preparation of rolls with enumerators visiting every household and collecting names and particulars of all adult members ordinarily residing there. For collecting such details, the electoral registration officer (ERO) is to send a letter

The reason the Constituent Assembly reposed faith in one Election Commission is instructive for the SIR debate. The Census will provide a test for the new voter rolls

S.I.R. QUERIES THAT KEEP BLOWING IN THE WIND

K F WILFRED

Former Senior Principal Secretary, Election Commission of India



SOURAV ROY

(through enumerators) addressed to an occupant of the house (the head of the family or a senior member) whose responsibility it then becomes to provide the details. The ERO's letter, for which there is a statutory format in Form 4, also clearly specifies that only names of persons who are Indian citizens and ordinarily resident there should be furnished. The list so provided is signed by the person giving the details, thereby owning responsibility for the data furnished.

Penal provisions in Section 31 of the 1950 Act providing for imprisonment up to a year is a deterrence and remedy for any false information. With the details so collected, a draft roll is published for claims and objections. What emerges from the Rules, therefore, is that for making the draft roll in an intensive revision, the details provided

by the head of family form the basis; they do not specify any particular set of documents for establishing citizenship or tracing link to any previous roll.

On the other hand, a summary revision of the roll is primarily for updating and purifying an existing roll with additions, deletions and corrections. Claims and objections are invited on the current roll, using it as the basic draft. In both the intensive and summary revisions, the ERO is required to publish details of claims and objections through a notice at his office, and may either accept a claim or objection if there is no demand for a hearing from any person and the ERO is satisfied about the validity of the claim or objection. Similarly, the ERO may upfront reject a claim or objection if it is not made within the specified period, or is not made in the

FOR A NIMBLE WELFARE FRAMEWORK

GOVIND GUPTA

JFK Presidential Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School and Weiss Fund Banerjee Fellow at University of Chicago

ed as wartime rationing in 1941 while Iran's electricity and water subsidies took root after the 1979 revolution and the war with Iraq. But they soon ballooned in scope, becoming permanent provisions. This made them tougher to dismantle, facing eventual public backlash.

The lesson is clear: subsidies or rationing through price-ceilings should not be the dominant crisis response to protecting vulnerable households. What then should be the response which protects without worsening the shock it seeks to soften?



EXPRESS

Govts are responding to the Gulf war with subsidies, price-ceilings and tax cuts. But West Asian policies themselves show such knee-jerk reactions are difficult to dismantle. India can use its direct cash transfer architecture to devise a system that's more efficient

India needs a quasi-universal, cash-based shock absorber. The name is admittedly clunky, but the government has rarely let welfare policies suffer for want of a catchy acronym. India already has the administrative spine from the Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-mobile trinity and direct benefit transfer architecture. Shock-absorber in the nature that they can be dormant in normal times, quickly activated in crises and automatically scaled back when conditions normalise. Unlike subsidies, this will respect price-signals and household choices instead of trying to dictate them.

It is not proposed as a new, add-on

welfare policy, but streamlined within the existing DBT architecture. To be clear, the idea is not to replace existing critical welfare programmes; it is simply to reduce the discretionary—often tempting and slippery—space to implement sticky *ad hoc* subsidies in the name of social protection.

The Centre could create a national shock-responsive cash window. In normal years, it would remain largely dormant. It would be triggered by pre-announced indicators: a sharp spike in food or fuel inflation, notified heatwave or an external commodity shock. Transfers could run for up to six months, with a statutory sunset. Extension should require explicit approval from Parliament. The beneficiary base should lean towards being inclusive and can begin with existing lists: food beneficiary households, PM-Kisan beneficiaries, pensioners, unorganised or migrant e-Shram workers and other verified low-income groups. The amount should be indexed to a food-and-fuel basket such that its insurance value is not eroded by the very shock it is meant to blunt.

The specific nuts and bolts of will definitely need further democratic and fiscal deliberation before deployment. But as a country, living through an age of shocks, we must not risk sleepwalking into policy responses where we keep reinventing the wheel in every crisis, creating a mess of ad hoc reliefs while distorting market adjustments precisely when they matter most.

The case for such an instrument extends beyond supply shocks. The same pipeline can deliver social assistance during climate or health emergencies like flood or drought conditions or a renewed viral outbreak. We have already seen a glimpse of this during the Covid pandemic, when the PM Garib Kalyan package relied on DBT rails to push relief out within weeks. Institutionalising that capacity, rather than improvising it each time, should be the lesson.

The politics of welfare in India is changing. More stress will likely induce more welfare promises. This reality cannot be denied, but it can surely be disciplined.

(Views are personal)

prescribed format and manner. In other cases, the ERO decides claims and objections after affording the opportunity of a hearing to the persons concerned and the final roll is brought out thereafter.

Sub-section (3) of Section 21 of the 1950 Act empowers the Election Commission to order a special revision of the roll of any constituency or part of a constituency after recording the reasons. This special revision can be done at any time and conducted in the manner as the Election Commission may deem fit. For the 'special intensive revision' conducted in Bihar in the second half of last year, and subsequently in a dozen other states, the Election Commission invoked this special provision to specify new measures such as linkage to the rolls of 2002/2003 and supporting documentary evidence.

The question whether the special revision for specific reasons envisaged under sub-section (3) can be ordered across the board in all constituencies was one of the several issues raised by the petitioners in the Bihar SIR-related petitions before the Supreme Court. In the judgement delivered last week, the apex court held that it can be done. The other contentions challenging the constitutionality of the SIR directions, specifying particular supporting documents for enrolment, and relying on linkage to 2003 rolls were all rejected while upholding the SIR undertaken.

Prior to the recent SIRs, the Election Commission has conducted summary revisions on an annual basis and brought out revised rolls in the first half of every January. Each of these revisions was known to be an extensive exercise, with the active participation of the political parties accompanied by well-orchestrated public awareness campaigns. In the last round of summary revisions concluded in January 2025, an electorate of 99 crore within a population of more than 140 crore appeared to be a reasonably fair representation of the adult population on the rolls.

Now that new standards have been set for enrolment, it is more than likely that future revisions will follow a similar path. When the new Census figures are released and SIR is completed in all states, it will be interesting to study the electorate strength against the adult population. If shifting of electors is indeed a primary cause for removing names in a state, there should be a corresponding increase in another state. The question whether the new measures form a headwind for potentially genuine electors may continue to seek answers.

(Views are personal)

MAIL BAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Lasting reform

Ref: *Change signalled in TN* (Jun 3). Tamil Nadu's initial crackdowns on corruption spark hope, but real governance requires moving past episodic drama. Procedural tweaks must produce true transparency rather than more bureaucratic paperwork. Ultimately, lasting reform depends on administrative follow-through over intent. **Babu Crishna, Bengaluru**

Crop rotation

Ref: *Odisha's rain concern* (Jun 3). Instead of cultivating water-intensive paddy crops during the rabi season, vegetables, pulses, oilseeds and millets can be an alternative that can increase the soil's health and water retention capacity. In addition, fish farming and animal husbandry can be adopted. As a result, the income of farmers from these import-dependent crops will increase. **Nabnit Panigrahi, Rayagada**

Local economies

Ref: *WFF imperative* (Jun 3). Remote work's potential to reverse migration from smaller cities deserves serious policy attention. When skilled professionals work from hometowns, local economies benefit directly. Tax incentives for remote-first companies hiring outside metros, combined with BharatNet completion, would create far more inclusive employment than urban infrastructure expansion alone. **S M Jeeva, email**

Minister's accountability

Ref: *CBSE heads roll* (Jun 3). All discerning students are wholeheartedly thankful to Sarthak Sidhant's display of courage. Not only CBSE officials, but the minister, too, should own moral responsibility for this mediocrity and resign to induce faith in students and parents about their future. **T M Uday Shankar, Hyderabad**

BJP decision

Ref: *Annamalai's suspense on* (Jun 3). The BJP top brass has failed to recognise Annamalai's contribution in improving the party's vote share in Tamil Nadu. The party might still have some chance in 2031 if they choose to correct course now and pacify him. **N Mahadevan, Chennai**

Justice denied

Ref: *85-year-old gets jail term* (Jun 3). Such extraordinary delay raises serious questions about the justice delivery system. The authorities must ensure humane custody, unlike activist Stan Swamy, who struggled even for a sipper before his death in jail. **N Nagarajan, Secunderabad**

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₹24k cr road projects in 4 states

4 major national highway projects across Odisha, Telangana, Bihar and MP get cabinet nod

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

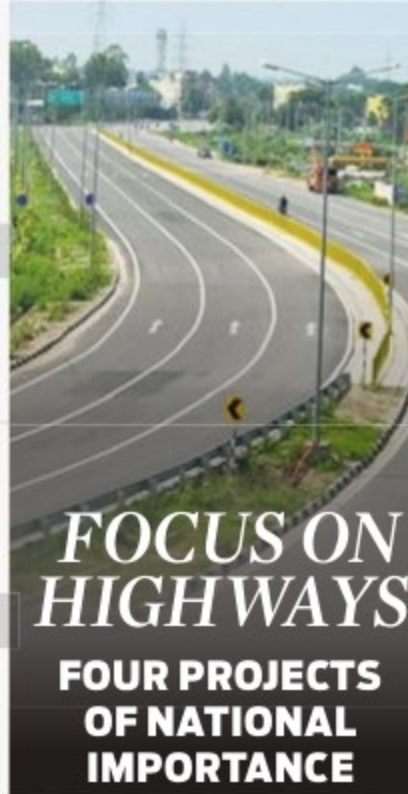
THE government on Wednesday approved four major national highway projects worth over ₹24,200 crore, aimed at improving connectivity, cutting travel time and improving logistics infrastructure across Odisha, Telangana, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

Briefing media after the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Information & Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the approvals are aligned with the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan and are expected to boost economic activity, improve freight movement and enhance regional connectivity in key growth corridors.

Among the largest projects cleared is the construction of a new coastal highway in Odisha between Rameshwar and Paradip at an estimated cost of ₹8,300.79 crore. The 160.18-km corridor, to be developed under the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM), will traverse Khurda, Puri, Kendrapada and Jagatsinghpur districts.

"The project includes a four-lane stretch from Rameshwar to Konark and a two-lane carriageway with paved shoulders from Konark to Paradip," the minister said, adding the high-

ODISHA
Green-field coastal highway along Rameshwar-Konark-Paradeep section
Total Length: 160 Km Estimated Cost: ₹8,301 cr
Concession Period for Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) Mode: 17.5 years
BIHAR
4-laning of Khagaria-Purnea section
Total Length: 144 Km Estimated Cost: ₹3,936 cr
Development through Build-Operate-Transfer (Toll) mode



FOCUS ON HIGHWAYS
FOUR PROJECTS OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE

TELANGANA
4-laning of Armoor-Jagtial-Mancherial section & Jagtial-Karimnagar section
Total Length: 190.7 Km Estimated Cost: ₹7,598 cr
Development through Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode
MADHYA PRADESH
To upgrade different sections of NH-347B
Total Length: 234 Km Estimated Cost: ₹4,415 cr
Development through Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode

way will ease traffic pressure on existing routes, improve regional mobility and provide connectivity to economic and logistics nodes identified under the PM GatiShakti framework. Travel time between Rameshwar and Paradip is expected to be cut by nearly two-and-a-half hours, he noted.

In Telangana, the CCEA approved the four-laning of the Armoor-Jagtial-Mancherial section of NH-63 and the Jagtial-Karimnagar section of NH-563 at a total cost of ₹7,597.16 crore. The 190.76-km project will be implemented through a mix of HAM and Build-Operate-Transfer (Toll) models, the Minister said.

The upgraded corridor is expected to decongest key urban

stretches across Nizamabad, Jagtial, Mancherial and Karimnagar districts while improving connectivity to five economic nodes, seven social nodes and ten logistics hubs. The government has estimated that the travel time between Armoor and Mancherial will be reduced by around 90 minutes, while the journey between Jagtial and Karimnagar could be reduced by 45 minutes.

The approval has also been granted to upgrade the 143.53-km Khagaria - Purnea section of NH-31 and NH-231 in Bihar at a cost of ₹3,936.05 crore under the BOT (Toll) model. The project includes a 6.73-km green-field bypass around Purnea city and is expected to improve road safety, reduce

congestion and enhance connectivity across districts including Khagaria, Bhagalpur, Katihar and Purnia.

In Madhya Pradesh, the government approved highway upgrades on NH-347B with an investment of ₹4,415.60 crore. The project involves upgrading the Hiwarkhedhi-Roshni-Ashapur-Rudhy section to a two-lane highway with paved shoulders and widening the Deshaon-Julwania stretch to four lanes. The corridor, which passes through Betul, Khandwa, Khargone and Barwani, will include a 16.2-km green-field bypass in Khargone. The government said projects will support faster freight movement, lower vehicle operating costs and reduced carbon emissions.

Record \$2 bn drone procurement to boost defence preparedness planned

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

INDIA is preparing to place military drone orders worth more than \$2 billion with domestic manufacturers this year, a move that would mark the country's largest-ever acquisition of unmanned aerial systems as it seeks to accelerate military modernisation and strengthen operational readiness. The procurement plans are at an advanced stage, with deliveries expected to be completed within 18 to 24 months. The proposed orders would represent a significant jump from recent government purchases of tactical-class drones worth about ₹3,000 crore.

According to a Reuters report, the upcoming procurement could exceed ₹20,000 crore and may be carried out through a fast-track acquisition process designed to meet urgent operational requirements. The push comes as militaries worldwide increasingly integrate drones into combat operations. The extensive use of unmanned systems in conflicts such as the Russia-Ukraine war and recent tensions involving Iran has demonstrated their effectiveness in surveillance, precision strikes and battlefield intelligence, while technological advances have made sophisticated drone platforms more accessible.



Move aimed to give push to domestic industry

In March, the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, granted Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for defence procurement proposals worth about ₹2.38 lakh crore. The planned procurement is seen as efforts to provide a major boost to India's domestic drone industry while expanding the armed forces' surveillance, reconnaissance and strike capabilities.

India's military planning has also been shaped by recent hostilities with Pakistan, where drones were deployed extensively, which highlighted the growing importance of unmanned systems in both offensive and defensive operations. Smit Shah, president of Drone Federation India said that the scale of the next procurement phase would far exceed previous orders. "In the next phase, tactical drone procurements in India may exceed 200 billion rupees, or more than \$2 billion," Shah was quoted as saying.

Industry officials say the armed forces are increasingly relying on emergency and accelerated procurement mechanisms to quickly induct drones across multiple operational domains, ranging from reconnais-

sance and logistics to loitering munitions and precision-strike missions. The planned acquisition aligns with the government's broader push for defence self-reliance and indigenous manufacturing. India now has more than 600 drone and component manufacturers, including established defence companies and a growing number of startups developing advanced unmanned technologies.

Policy reforms and government-backed initiatives aimed at supporting innovation in the defence sector have helped expand domestic production capabilities and attract investment, positioning Indian firms to meet rising military demand. The proposed drone orders also come against the backdrop of a broader modernisation drive.

Modi meets RSP chief, says Nepal is a priority partner

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

AS Nepal's new government begins settling into office, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday reiterated India's commitment to strengthening ties with Kathmandu, describing Nepal as a "priority partner" under New Delhi's Neighbourhood First policy during a meeting with Rabi Lamichhane, chairman of Nepal's ruling Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP).

The meeting comes at a significant juncture in India-Nepal relations, with both countries seeking to deepen cooperation while navigating recent diplomatic sensitivities, including differences over unresolved border issues. Welcoming Lamichhane, who is on a visit to India at the invitation of BJP leadership, Modi highlighted New Delhi's readiness to work closely with Nepal's new political leadership to further expand bilateral engagement across sectors.

"I am extremely delighted to have the opportunity to meet with Chairman Mr. Rabi Lamichhane of Nepal's RSP. I welcome your aspiration to work together for a shared and prosperous future, and I fully agree



PM Narendra Modi with Nepal's RSP chairman Rabi Lamichhane on Wednesday | PTI

with it," Modi said. "Under our Neighbourhood First policy, Nepal is a priority partner, and we are eager to collaborate with the new government to elevate the unique and multifaceted relationship between our two countries to new heights," he added.

Lamichhane, a former deputy prime minister and home minister of Nepal, received a high-profile reception during his visit and also held meetings with Union Home Minister Amit Shah and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, reflecting the importance New Delhi attaches to engagement with Nepal's emerging political leadership.

Responding to Modi's remarks, Lamichhane said the future of India-Nepal relations should be anchored in develop-

ment, connectivity and shared prosperity. "I share PM Modi's vision for a future where Nepal and India transcend past constraints to embrace a new era of development diplomacy," he said. "By focusing on shared civilisational bonds, digital corridors, and seamless connectivity, we can truly build a partnership defined by progress and mutual trust. RSP looks forward to translating these possibilities into reality for the people of Nepal and India," Lamichhane added.

The visit assumes added significance as preparations continue for a proposed visit by Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri to Nepal, with dates yet to be finalised. It also comes amid renewed friction over bilateral border issues.

CBSE glitch continues unabated, students say not able to enter portal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE technical glitches faced by the CBSE Class XII students to access the re-evaluation portal continued on Wednesday with some expressing their inability to log into the portal. The CBSE said 43,980 applications were accepted by the portal by afternoon.

In a post on X, Krishna, a student, said, "Facing a major issue with the revaluation portal. I spent 4 hours trying to apply, carefully filling in all the reasons. However, every time I hit submit, it shows an error and fails. I have already tried twice. Who should I contact to resolve?" Another student, Sandeep Mishra, said, "I messaged you directly yesterday, yet I'm still not able to log in though all details are correct. Please tell me how to log in." Similar complaints abound on social media.

Advocate Vineet Jindal, who has been voicing multiple complaints on behalf of the students, said, "A mother recently shared her grievance with me. Her son was placed in the re-test



category in three subjects and applied for copies of his answer sheets on May 20. Even till today, he has not received the answer sheets." Jindal added that she was reluctant to approach the court citing security concerns. "If those affected are unwilling to raise their voices and seek legal remedies, it becomes extremely difficult for anyone else to help them," he said.

In a statement, the CBSE said, "The re-evaluation portal has accepted 4,924 applications for verification and 39,056 applications for re-evaluation (total of 43,980) as of 12 noon today. Our teams remain on constant watch to ensure a secure, reliable and student-friendly platform."

Why proposal for robotic scanner changed to ordinary one?: Digvijaya

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

A robotic scanner combines a 3D or optical scanner with an automated robotic arm to capture detailed, hands-free measurements. Digvijaya Singh, Parliamentary panel head

Judicial probe sought

Earlier, Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi demanded an independent judicial probe and an SIT probe against the firm 'Coemtp Edutech', which was given contract for OSM project. However, the CBSE said the contract was indeed awarded to Coemtp Edutech.

A day after the CBSE chairman and secretary were shunted out over the On-Screen Marking (OSM) fiasco, parliamentary panel head and Congress MP Digvijaya Singh questioned the education ministry over its decision to change the proposal of using robotic scanners for the OSM project.

In a post on X, Singh said, "The original request for proposal for the OSM project included the use of robotic scanners. It was later replaced with ordinary scanners. Why? Only Dharmendra Pradhan know."

On Tuesday, a 17-year-old student from Jharkhand affected by the CBSE's online marking system appeared before the Parliamentary Committee for Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports, chaired by Digvijaya Singh. The student made a presentation of the anomalies in the tendering process of the CBSE to select vendors for online marking and put forth a set of questions.

In his tweet, Singh explained the efficacy of the robotic scanner. "A robotic scanner combines a 3D or optical scanner with an automated robotic arm (or similar automated mechanism) to capture detailed, hands-free measurements. These systems are widely used in manufacturing for automated quality control, in libraries for bulk archival digitizing, and in reverse engineering." Singh sought to know if the proposal was changed to "oblige a particular vendor".

Scandinavian Airlines debut flight denied entry

S LALITHA @ New Delhi

AFTER a gap of 17 years, the Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) has restored its flight operations to India by flying from Copenhagen to Mumbai. However, the crew were forced to return midair after flying for four hours, as they were alerted that the aviation regulator in India had not given its nod for the operations.

Flight no SK969, an Airbus A330 aircraft, was flying over Azerbaijan when the Air Traffic Control unit at Copenhagen asked the cockpit crew to make an air turn back. Multiple aviation professionals confirmed the incident to this reporter.

Ironically, a team in Mumbai airport had been making preparations for the landing of the maiden flight, with the water cannon salute too being kept on standby to greet it when it touched the Chhatrapati Maharaj Shivaji International Airport.

It was after some time that they were alerted that the flight would not be landing! The plane flew back for four hours and landed safely in Copenhagen.



Flying over Azerbaijan when asked to turn back

Flight no SK969, an Airbus A330 aircraft, was flying over Azerbaijan when the Air Traffic Control unit at Copenhagen asked the cockpit crew to make an air turn back. Multiple aviation professionals confirmed the incident to this reporter. Ironically, a team in Mumbai airport had been making preparations for the landing of the maiden flight.

The aviation regulator, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, needs to give its written consent for any flight operation to take place. However, the consent has not yet been given, said aviation sources. Despite multiple calls and messages, the DGCA did not respond. The aviation ministry too did not

give its version.

In a statement, the airline said the flight returned to Copenhagen "after the final approval expected from authorities was not issued as anticipated."

"SAS completed all necessary operational and regulatory preparations for the launch

following several months of planning and co-ordination. Based on ongoing discussions with the relevant authorities, SAS had every expectation that the remaining formal approval would be finalised while the flight was en route. As the approval was not finalised as anticipated, the flight could not continue as planned," the airline said in a statement.

"Our immediate focus is on supporting affected passengers and securing the remaining approval is obtained in order to commence service as soon as possible. We remain ready to commence operations and expect the service to begin within the next couple of days once the formal approval has been issued," the airline added.

The Copenhagen-Mumbai service marks SAS's return to India after 17 years and is an important addition to our network, strengthening connectivity between Scandinavia and one of the world's fastest-growing markets. "We look forward to welcoming customers onboard very soon and continuing this route as planned," it added.

In a first, AI used to monitor meals prepared for railway passengers

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

IN a first-of-its-kind initiative, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is now being used to monitor meals prepared for railway passengers. More than 800 base kitchens supplying food onboard trains have been brought under round-the-clock surveillance through AI-enabled CCTV cameras, all linked to a central monitoring war room at the Delhi headquarters of the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC).

Addressing the media on Wednesday, IRCTC Chairman and Managing Director S.K. Jain said that around 2,400 AI-enabled cameras have been installed across 800 kitchens to ensure the quality of meals served onboard trains.

A dedicated war room has been established at the IRCTC headquarters, where AI-enabled cameras monitor kitchen operations and meal preparation activities round the clock. According to Jain, the system can detect even minor hygiene



Over 1,300 malicious domains identified

The IRCTC CMD also noted that more than 1,300 malicious email domains had been identified and blocked over the past year to safeguard genuine passengers. "In the last one year, we have lodged over 500 complaints with cyber cells regarding fraudulent activities," Jain said.

lapses, such as a strand of hair. The cameras can instantly identify deficiencies in food preparation and handling.

Besides flagging service deficiencies and quality issues, the AI system analyses the nature of errors to help improve operational standards. Jain said that more than 16.5 lakh meals are served daily on trains across the country, including meals provided with tickets on premium services such as the Rajdhani Express and other long-distance trains. The preparation of these meals is now being monitored through the AI-enabled surveillance system.

Responding to a question regarding difficulties faced by passengers during the Tatkal reservation window, Jain said that every effort is being made to ensure that confirmed tickets are available to genuine passengers while preventing access by malicious actors.

He said that IRCTC deactivated 3.5 crore fake accounts and removed a large number of bots in 2025 as part of its drive against fraudulent activities. Stringent measures continue to be implemented to prevent unauthorised attempts to book tickets during the Tatkal booking period.

A long-time aide of Mamata resigns hrs after attending administrative review meet of CM

Mayor quits, ED summons Abhishek

SUBHENDU MAITI @ Kolkata

SENIOR Trinamool Congress leader Firhad Hakim, a close aide of former CM Mamata Banerjee, on Wednesday resigned as Kolkata mayor, dealing further setback to the party on a day a group of 58 TMC rebel MLAs got recognition from the Assembly Speaker.

Adding to the TMC woes, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) summoned Abhishek Banerjee, party national general secretary and nephew of Mamata, to appear before it on June 15 in connection with the primary school recruitment. Abhishek is also facing a probe by the state CID in connection with the alleged forgery in signatures of several party MLAs.

Hakim, who was the urban development and municipal affairs minister in the TMC government, resigned hours after he along with some other Mamata loyalist MLAs attended an administrative review meeting held by Chief Minister Suvenud Adhikari at the state secretariat. His presence at the meeting along other TMC leaders triggered speculation over shifting equations within the party.

TMC spokesperson Kunal Ghosh told the media, "The working environment in the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) is not congenial. Firhad Hakim sought Mamata Banerjee's permission to resign because of difficulties in functioning as the mayor. She prevented him but he wanted



A file photo of Firhad Hakim and Mamata Banerjee | PTI

Trinamool MP told to appear before agency on June 15

A team of ED officers on Wednesday visited TMC leader and Mamata Banerjee's nephew Abhishek Banerjee's Kalighat Road residence and delivered the summons to his staff as he was not present in connection with teachers recruitment scam. He was told to appear before the agency at its CGO Complex office in Salt Lake on June 15.

to resign with dignity. After that Mamata gave her nod."

Hakim had been a minister and the mayor since 2018. The development comes amid a series of resignations by party councillors as well as members of the mayor-in-council in recent weeks.

A team of ED officers visited Abhishek's Kalighat Road residence, and delivered the summons to a member of his staff as he was not present, sources said. The MP was directed to appear before the agency at its CGO Complex office in Salt Lake, they added.

The ED has been probing the teacher recruitment scam since 2022. The agency has con-

ducted raids at properties linked to Trinamool leaders in connection with the case, and arrested several heavyweights, including former state education minister Partha Chatterjee.

Over the past year, the agency has questioned several officials and attached assets worth crores of rupees, as the investigators suspect a wider conspiracy involving fraudulent appointments. Besides the ED, which is assessing the trail of the proceeds of crime, the CBI is investigating other aspects of the case. The ED is probing the role of Abhishek-linked firm in the scam, officials said.



Christians stir against religion act in Arunachal

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

THE Arunachal Christian Forum (ACF), the state's largest Christian organisation, issued a 15-day ultimatum to the state's BJP-led government, demanding the immediate suspension of the ongoing process of framing and notifying rules under the Arunachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act (APFRA).

The APFRA was introduced in 1978 but was never implemented. In September 2024, the Gauhati High Court had directed the Arunachal government to frame and notify the rules.

In a memorandum submitted to CM Pema Khandu, the ACF said the Christian community of the state was deeply concerned over the implementation of the Act through the framing of rules, as it might have far-reaching consequences, affecting constitutional rights, religious freedom, and peaceful co-existence of people.

"Such action without broad consensus and meaningful consultation with all stakeholders is likely to create avoidable tension and unrest within the state," the ACF cautioned, demanding that the process be immediately suspended.

Varanasi all set to host 2-day meeting of BRICS Culture Working Group

NAMITA BAIJPAI @ Lucknow

VARANASI, one of the most ancient cities on the globe and the parliamentary constituency of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is all set to witness a two-day cultural extravaganza by hosting guests from BRICS countries when the second meeting of the BRICS Culture Working Group will take place on Thursday and Friday.

The meeting aims to bring senior diplomats, policymakers, and cultural experts from India and abroad together on a common platform.

UP has been figuring as a major centre for global events, thanks to the efforts of the present dispensation towards preserving cultural heritage, promoting tourism, supporting local products and generating employment through all such activities.

The cultural extravaganza will provide Kashi an opportunity to showcase its rich cultural identity on an international platform.

As part of the two-day event,

Experts from India and abroad come together

The meeting aims to bring senior diplomats, policymakers, and cultural experts from India and abroad together on a common platform. Uttar Pradesh has been figuring as a major centre for global events, thanks to the efforts of the present dispensation towards preserving cultural heritage.

Kashi's world-famous GI-tagged and ODOP (One District One Product) products will be showcased at a special exhibition, wherein six artisans will display six unique products reflecting Kashi's centuries-old art, craftsmanship and cultural heritage.

Today, Kashi's handicraft products have established a distinct identity not only across India but also in many countries around the world. The two-day event will host delegates from Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).



'Carry Me Back' to manage waste in Himalayas

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

IN order to tackle the growing waste crisis at high altitudes, the Rudraprayag district administration has launched an innovative 'Carry Me Back' policy at the holy shrine of Kedarnath. This initiative, designed to ensure the sanctuary remains plastic and dry-waste free, seeks to transform pilgrims from mere visitors into active custodians of the fragile Himalayan ecosystem.

The initiative is being spearheaded by the Kedarnath Nagar Panchayat under the guidance of District Magistrate Vishal Mishra, in collaboration with the Healing Himalayas Foundation and Sulabh International. Every day, thousands of devotees trek to the shrine, located thousands of feet above sea level. This influx inevitably leaves behind a trail of plastic bottles, food wrappers, and packaging materials. Given the treacherous, high-altitude terrain, traditional waste disposal



The goal of 'Clean Kedarnath, Safe Himalayas, and Protected Environment' can only be achieved when every pilgrim understands their responsibility and becomes a part of this mission
—Vishal Mishra, District Magistrate, Rudraprayag

methods have long been a significant challenge.

Under the new protocol, the Nagar Panchayat will provide pilgrims with specialised bags, each capable of holding 400 to 500 grams of waste. Pilgrims are encouraged to collect their dry waste during their stay and carry the bags back down to Gaurikund, ensuring that the sanctum remains unblemished.

Tourism vs ecology

According to data from the Uttarakhand Tourism Department, over 29.7 lakh pilgrims have visited the four shrines and Hemkund Sahib. With approximately 46.33 lakh registrations so far, administration faces the challenge of balancing religious tourism with ecological preservation.

"The goal of 'Clean Kedarnath, Safe Himalayas, and Protected Environment' can only be achieved when every pilgrim understands their responsibility and becomes a part of this mission," said District Magistrate Vishal Mishra. "Baba Kedarnath's sacred abode is not just a center of faith; it is now set to become a national example of environmental conservation and public participation." The

TMC leader held for illegally living in woman's house

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

TRINAMOOL Congress spokesperson Jayprakash Majumdar was arrested on Wednesday on charges of forcibly occupying a flat at Salt Lake for the past 14 years and harassing a woman who owns the property after her husband's death.

In her complaint filed at the Bidhannagar North police station, the woman said Majumdar has been forcibly occupying the property since 2012, a year after the TMC came to power in West Bengal. She accused the TMC spokesperson of refusing to vacate the premises despite repeated requests because of his political influence.

Police rushed to the flat when locals were staging protest against Majumdar and his wife. A police official said the Trinamool leader has been arrested. The landlady, Arati Roychowdhury, said the rent agreement had expired in 2015. She had served a legal notice on Majumdar him asking him to vacate the flat, but he ignored it. After the BJP formed government in the state, the woman, along with some local residents confronted Majumdar and his wife and asked them to vacate the flat immediately. Majumdar was not there in the flat during the incident.

Crackdown exposes illegal migration module in Gujarat

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

A statewide operation launched across Gujarat to trace and detain illegal Bangladeshi immigrants uncovered unauthorised settlements, identity manipulation and cross-border financial transactions spanning Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara and Rajkot. The drive began on June 2 and quickly developed into one of the state's largest crackdowns on illegal foreign nationals in recent years.

Ahmedabad remained the centre of the operation as Crime Branch, Special Operations Group and local police teams conducted raids, detentions, interrogations and verification checks across several areas. Nearly 300 suspects were detained in Ahmedabad. After document verification, police confirmed 166 Bangladeshi nationals, including 41 men, 95 women and 30 children.

The operation mainly targeted Chandola, Gulabnagar and Khodiyarnagar in Danilimda. Officials believe earlier action in Chandola pushed many immigrants into other parts of the city, where they allegedly



A file photo of similar operation in Gujarat last year | PTI

adopted new identities.

Ahmedabad Police Commissioner G S Malik reviewed the investigation at the Crime Branch headquarters. He questioned detainees about their entry into India, border routes, length of stay and residential locations. According to Malik, investigators are also examining agents who facilitated entry. Preliminary findings indicate some women were involved in spa-related and prostitution activities, while many men worked as daily-wage labourers.

Questioning also revealed a financial network extending beyond Gujarat. Investigators found that earnings made in Ahmedabad were allegedly transferred to Kolkata through

angadia channels before being routed to Bangladesh.

Authorities also discovered the use of certain mobile applications for cross-border money transfers, prompting a deeper investigation into possible hawala-style and digital transfer networks. Police are now focusing on identifying the people and networks handling these transactions and arranging border crossings.

In Surat, a verification drive identified more than 100 suspected Bangladeshi nationals. After thorough checks, over 50 were confirmed to be Bangladeshi citizens. Legal proceedings have started, and authorities are completing deportation formalities.

Rama's 286-kg bow 'Kodand', crafted by women artisans, rests in Ayodhya

NAMITA BAIJPAI @ Lucknow

REFLECTING a blend of deep devotion and national pride, the 286-kilogram Kodanda, the sacred and divine bow of Lord Rama, now rests in the newly built Ram Temple in Ayodhya, as a profound symbol of spiritual and historical unity of Sanatan.

Made up of panchadhatu, an alloy of five metals including gold, silver, copper, zinc and iron, the bow, measuring 8 ft in length and 2.5 ft in width, worth ₹1.25 crore, was meticulously crafted by 48 women artisans from Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu. They took around eight months to bring the master piece to reality.

The bow is intricately engraved with scenes depicting country's military valour, including images from the Kargil war, symbolising nation's pride in its armed forces.



It was transported to Ayodhya through a grand procession (Shobha Yatra) which was organised by the Sanatan Jagran Manch and the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP). The Shobha Yatra commenced from Rourkela in Odisha on January 3 this year.

It travelled across all 30 districts of Odisha, stopping at the historic Jagannath Temple in Puri on January 19.

In Puri, it was offered for darshan at the Jagannath Tem-

Military valour, including Kargil images, depicted

Made up of panchadhatu, an alloy of five metals including gold, silver, copper, zinc and iron, the bow worth ₹1.25 crore measures 8 ft in length and 2.5 ft in width. The bow is engraved with scenes depicting military valour, including images from the Kargil war, symbolising nation's pride.

ple. Afterward, the bow continued its journey toward Ayodhya and arrived in the holy city on January 22.

VHP sources said thousands of people had 'darshan' of the 'kodand' on its way to Ayodhya. "It is not only a religious symbol but also an example of Sanatan culture, and faith," said a VHP leader. Earlier, a manuscript of 233-year-old Sanskrit Valmiki Ramayana was gifted to 'Ram Lala' and kept at the Ram Katha Kunj at Ayodhya.



JAIPUR
DIARY

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Our correspondent in Jaipur

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Political feud between Rathore, Beniwal in court

The political slugfest between state BJP president Madan Rathore and RLP chief Hanuman Beniwal is now heading for a courtroom drama. After days of fiery speeches, protest rallies and convoy clashes, Beniwal has fired off a legal notice accusing Rathore of tarnishing his socio-political image. Sources say the RLP boss has demanded a public apology, warning of legal action if Rathore refuses to back down. The clash escalated after Beniwal publicly dubbed Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma a "king of fools" and his ministers a "cabinet of fools" at Bhairana Dharm. Rathore hit back sharply, calling Beniwal a "disgrace to politics".



Gehlot's absence fuels Congress rumour mill

The Congress Chintan Shivir in Pushkar had all the ingredients of a grand political show—strategy talks, power comeback plans and a full house of Rajasthan Congress heavyweights around Rahul Gandhi. From PCC chief Govind Singh Dotsara to LoP Tikaram Jolly, leaders eagerly pitched ideas for 2028. Yet, the biggest buzz wasn't about who spoke but who disappeared. Former CM Ashok Gehlot skipped the final day after personally welcoming Rahul Gandhi at Kishangarh Airport. With Rahul holding closed-door strategy talks on Rajasthan's future, Gehlot's absence quickly became the camp's hottest side discussion.

Jaipur's iconic cinema hall Raj Mandir turns 50

For Jaipurites and tourists coming to visit the Pink City, a trip to Raj Mandir Cinema has never been just about watching a film; it has been about velvet curtains, glittering interiors and Bollywood magic served with pure nostalgia. As the iconic single-screen theatre celebrates its golden jubilee, the city is reliving memories that span five cinematic decades. Opened in 1976 with the Dhamendra-Hema Malini starrer 'Charas', Raj Mandir quickly became a national sensation with gemstone-themed seating, air-conditioning and fragrance-filled lobbies long before multiplexes arrived. To celebrate 50 years, the theatre hosted free screenings of classics.

IN THE COURT OF J ADDL. CIVIL JUDGE BENGALURU RURAL AT BANGALORE O.S. No. 406/2021

BETWEEN: SAMA HALIMA, Wife of Areeb Kamran Khan, aged about 24 years, No. 369, Concorde Napa Valley, Kanakapura Road, Kanakapura, Bengaluru-560 082. ... **PLAINTIFF**

AND: AREEB KAMRAN KHAN, aged 27 years, SON OF INAYATHULLAH SARVATHULLAH, No. 589, 2ND STAGE, NEAR P & T QUARTERS, UDAYAGIRI, MYSURU 570019. ... **DEFENDANT**

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT
SRI AREEB KAMRAN KHAN, aged 27 years, SON OF INAYATHULLAH SARVATHULLAH, No. 589, 2ND STAGE, NEAR P & T QUARTERS, UDAYAGIRI, MYSURU 570019. ALSO AT No. 1542, NES, 1ST CROSS, BANGALURU LAYOUT, YELAHANKA, BENGALURU-560 064

PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas the above Plaintiff has filed a Suit registered as O.S. No. 406/2021 for dissolving the marriage dated 17.08.2018 with Defendant under the Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act, 1939 and to set aside the said II. ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE BENGALURU RURAL AT BANGALURU.

You are hereby summoned to appear before II ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE BENGALURU RURAL AT BENGALURU in person or by a pleader on **06.07.2026 at 11.00 A.M.** to answer all the claims and you are directed to produce on that day all the documents upon which you are intended to rely in support of your defense.

Given under my hand and seal of this Court on this 03.06.2026.
By order of the Court, Sheriadat, Ptl Civil Judge's Court, Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **SYED THOUSIF** S/o Syed Kareem @ Babu, residing at No.209, S.K.Garden, Bilvadarahalli, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk entered into an Agreement to purchase the Schedule Property hereinafter mentioned in possession namely M.Vishnu, S/o Late Munivelkappa, residing at No.27, Vishnu Nursery, Kuttly Colony, Labaghi, Siddapura, Jayanagar I Block, Bengaluru South for the valuable sale consideration and paid the substantial sale consideration and the said M.Vishnu agreed to perform certain terms and conditions under an acknowledgement dated 02.03.2026 and consequently the beneficial interest is created in favour of my client. Thereby, if anybody having any manner of right, title, interest, possession, claim, share, demand whatsoever in and over any portion of the Schedule Property may kindly submit the same in writing with concerned documents to the undersigned advocate at his office between 10.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. in all the working days within seven days from the date of publication of this Notice, failing which my client would proceed to get the Schedule Property from the said M.Vishnu holding that the said M.Vishnu alone is the full and absolute owner in possession of the Schedule Property having legal, valid, indefeasible title in his favour and other than him, nobody having any interest in and over the schedule property and further the Schedule Property is also free from all lien, charge, encumbrances and consequently the past, present and future litigations, claims etc. if any, will become dead, invalid, void and not binding or affect the interest of my client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All the piece and parcel of the property bearing New Municipal No.29, BBMP PID No. 62-178-29, measuring 14.12 Guntas/ East to West 550 Feet, North to South 60 + 55/2 Feet, totally measuring 15,790 Sq.ft in Sy.No.10/1 and 11 of Labaghi Siddapura, Kuttly Colony, Ward No.62, Bengaluru bounded on East by: Property of Ramaiah, West by: Property of Ramaiah, North Road lead to Nimhans and South by: Property of Ramaiah.

M.PRAKASH, ADVOCATE
Sri. SAI ARCADE, III Floor No.462/1-35, 12th Cross, 8th Main, Wilson Garden, Bengaluru 560 027.

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Follow us on @SCR@RailwaysIndia
Details of the said Property may be seen on our website: www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

Open e-Tender Notice Nos. C/E.29/Elec/M/SC/11/PA/OT/2026-27 Dt.01.06.2026

For and on behalf of President of India, the undersigned invites e-tender for the given below work up to **15.00 hours on 23.06.2026**

SI. No. 1, e-Tender No.: etender No. C/E.29/Elec/M/SC/11/PA/OT/2026-27 etender No.E-M-SC-11-OT-2026-27. **Name of work:** Secunderabad Division Electrical Maintenance Department - Provision of 12M wide Foot Over Bridge with Ramp at Bhadrachalam Road, Mahabubabad, Madhira, Jangaon, Zahirabad, Manchiryal, Peddapalli & Yadadri Stations under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme - Electrical Arrangements -Electrical arrangements. **Tender Value (₹):** 62,99,110.12. **EMD (₹):** 1,26,000.00. **CTF (₹):** 0.00. **Completion period:** 6 Months.

1. Tender conditions/other particulars are available in the Tender documents on IREPS website at "www.ireps.gov.in" which can be downloaded, can be participated and can view any modifications if any.

2. The tender notice is also displayed in the Notice Board located in the office of Sr.DEE (Maintenance), Secunderabad Division, South Central Railway, Secunderabad which can be seen on all working days.

3. The Railway reserves the right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereto.

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (M/ Secunderabad)

Open e-Tender Notice Nos. C/E.29/Elec/M/SC/12/TF/OT/2026-27Dt.02.06.2026

For and on behalf of President of India, the undersigned invites e-tender for the given below work up to **15.00 hours on 24.06.2026**

SI. No. 1, e-Tender No.: etenderNo. C/E.29/Elec/M/SC/12/TF/OT/2026-27 etender No.E-M-SC-12-OT-2026-27. **Name of work:** Secunderabad Division Electrical Maintenance Department - (i) Provision of longer loop line, RBG Building & Goompty at GNP station (ii) Provision of longer loop line, RBG Building & Goompty at NSKL station -Electrical Arrangements. **Tender Value (₹):** 99,27,093.00. **EMD (₹):** 1,98,600.00. **CTF (₹):** 0.00. **Completion period:** 6 Months.

1. Tender conditions/other particulars are available in the Tender documents on IREPS website at "www.ireps.gov.in" which can be downloaded, can be participated and can view any modifications if any.

2. The tender notice is also displayed in the Notice Board located in the office of Sr.DEE (Maintenance), Secunderabad Division, South Central Railway, Secunderabad which can be seen on all working days.

3. The Railway reserves the right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereto.

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (M/ Secunderabad)

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1. Tender conditions/other particulars are available in the Tender documents on IREPS website at "www.ireps.gov.in" which can be downloaded, can be participated and can view any modifications if any.

2. The tender notice is also displayed in the Notice Board located in the office of Sr.DEE (Maintenance), Secunderabad Division, South Central Railway, Secunderabad which can be seen on all working days.

3. The Railway reserves the right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereto.

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (M/ Secunderabad)

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at <http://www.ireps.gov.in> or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

DOCUMENT LOST

I, K Mahaveer Chand residing at No.1065, 3rd Main, 6th Cross, K N Extension, Yeshwanthapura, Bengaluru - 560 022 do hereby inform to the general public that in 05/05/2026, I have lost the document of Mother Deed (No.949, 27-29 pages of Book 1, lines 88-89, 2896) dated 28-9-1988, in Yeshwanthapura. In spite of my best efforts I could not trace the same and in this regard on 02-06-2026, I had lodged complaint at Police Unit, Yeshwanthapura, Bengaluru City, vide Lost Report No.2233858/2026. If anybody finds the above said document or is in possession, please handover the same to the above said address or contact me on **99866 66698**.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client **Mr. RAGHAVENDRA R BHARADWAJ** S/o K.V. Ramesh, intends to purchase the Vacant Site No. 77, BBMP Katha no. 96, BBMP Katha no. 72/277, Block No. 1, (SECOND LAYOUT) in Pavananapura Layout, at Lingadheeranahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk Bangalore, measuring East to West : 40-0 feet and North to South : 30-0 feet totally measuring 1200 Square Feet and bounded on:
East by: Road
West by: Site No. 50
North by: Site No. 78
South by: Site No. SC-10

From its present owners Smt N. Manjula and duly registered vide Sale Deed No.RBN-1, 0385-2013-14 of book stored in CD NO.RRND 126, dated 23-11-2013, registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Rajarejeshwari Nagar Sub-Registrar, Bangalore. Persons having any rights, title claim/object or interest over the said property may lodge their objections/Claims with documentary evidence within 15 days from this day to the undersigned counsel. Failing which my clients shall deem that there are no claims objections over the said property and to proceed with the transaction. Thereafter no claims shall be entertained against my client's in future in respect to above said property.

S. Suhas Desai
Advocate and Legal Consultant,
Desai Associates,
No. 12/4C, 100R Road, BSK 6th Stage, Opp. Ganigrapalya Bus Stop, Bangalore - 560 109.
Mob:9739454120 / 77606 47446

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the general public that my client, **Mr. R. ANIL CHANDRA BHAT** S/o Ramachandra Bhat, aged about 67 years, residing at, No. 8-1003, 10th Floor, 81 Block, Mahaveer Riviera Apartments, Achappa Layout, Silver Oak Layout, near Brahma Brews, JP Nagar 7th Phase, Bengaluru South, Bengaluru - 560078 and also at No. 8/366, C Sales mangalwadi Area, Narayanathirtha, Chooliswery, Thiruvur, Kerala - 680 541, is the absolute owner of the schedule property. My client had informed me that he had lost/ misplaced the (i) Gift Deed dated 08.09.2015, executed by Sri D. Narasimha Setty in favour of his daughter Smt. Navayasi Gudur, which was registered as Document No. NMG-1-05217-2015-16, stored in CD No. NMG0341, dated 08.09.2015, before the Office of Sub-Registrar, Nelamangala, Bengaluru Rural and (ii) Rectification Deed dated 02.03.2021, executed by Sri D. Narasimha Setty in favour of his daughter Smt. Navayasi Gudur, which was registered as Document No. NMG-1-11477-2020-21, stored in CD No. NMG01023, dated 05.03.2021, before the Office of Sub-Registrar, Nelamangala, Bengaluru Rural. In this regard, a police complaint has also been lodged Jayaprakash Nagar PS on 10/05/2026 and Complaint No. 1644326230000562 has been issued.

If any persons are having any right, title or interest over the above said property they can inform the same to the to the below mentioned address within 7 days from the publication of the notice. If no claim is received within 7 days from publication it will be taken as there is no claim from anybody in respect of the above Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the residential Site bearing 10/10, Kutha No. 424/10, Property ID No. 150300701100400993, presently assigned City Municipal Council, Nelamangala E-PID No. 6515360078, measuring East to West 12.19 meters and North to South 9.14 meters, all measuring 111.48 square meters, situated in the layout formed out of converted lands bearing Sy. No. 51/2 measuring 1 Acre 15 Guntas, totally measuring 2 Acres 30 Guntas, situated at Kempalinganahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, the said lands having been converted from owner agricultural to non-agricultural residential purposes vide Official Memorandum No. ALNI/NSR 124/2006-07 dated 16.01.2008 issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Rural District, and the layout having been approved by the Nelamangala Planning Authority vide Order No. NPA/LAO/108/2007-08 dated 07.08.2008 and subsequent approval dated 05.06.2021, and bounded on: East by : Private Property, West by: Road, North by : Site No.9, South by: Road.

Mrs. SHASHIKALA S. Advocate
No. 06, 1st Floor, Opp. Post Office, North Park, Bengaluru-560020. Mob: 8884517486

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II AT: BANGALORE

O.A.No - 1784/2024

BETWEEN
AXIS BANK LIMITED Applicant
AND
M.S Retail Private Limited Others

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993

WHEREAS, the applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of the Recovery of debt due to Bank and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against you for Recovery of sum of ₹ 39,44,54,378.42 (Rupees Thirty-Nine Crore Forty-Four Lakhs Fifty-Four Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Eight and Four Hundred Paise only) plus present and future interest till full payment/realization.

The above Defendants are therefore, here by directed to before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorized agent in support of their defense to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on **15.06.2026 at 10:30 a.m.** as to why reliefs prayed should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default of the application will be heard and determined in your absence. Give under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this 07th Day of March 2026

To
1) **M.S.Retail Private Limited**
Registered Office: No.83, 1st Floor, Jyothi Complex No.134/1, Infantry Road, Bangalore-560001
Also at: No.19/1, Ground Floor, KCD Complex, CSI Compound, 3rd Cross Bengaluru - 560027
2) **Mr.Anil Kranti Mohan Mehra # 4/102, Lehnert, D-102, 10th A Main Road, 15th Cross, Opposite MLA Primary School, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560055**
3) **Mr.Shrawan Anil Mehra, #D-102, Lehnert Apartment, No.4 & 4/1, 10th A Main, 15th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560055**
4) **Mrs.Monika Anil Mehra, # D-102, Lehnert Apartment, No.4 & 4/1, 10th A Main, 15th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560055**
5) **IDFC First Bank Ltd, II Floor, Pride Hulkul Building, # 116, Labaghi Main Road, Bengaluru - 560 027**

Advocate for Applicant Bank
Dhirendra N Katti
Register
Place: Bangalore Debts Recovery Tribunal-II

Canara Bank, ARM Branch I

No. 86, Spencers Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001.

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable / movable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer ARM-1 will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **20.06.2026 (10.00 AM to 11.00 AM)**, for recovery of **Rs. 99,88,730.67**, as on 01.06.2026 with further interest and charges thereon due to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank** from **1. Mr. Naresh M. S/o. Mithaiah, No. 22, 1st Cross, Shastri Nagar, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru-560020. 2. Mrs. Nagalakshmi, W/o. Naresh M. No. 22, 1st Cross, Shastri Nagar, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru-560020. Also at: Arhant MSR Neepa, Ward No. 187, Site No. 34 & 41, 4th Cross, J P Nagar, 7th Phase, Bengaluru-560078.**

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **Mrs. PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **19.06.2026, 5.00 pm.** (Rs. in Lacs)

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in **Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com)** or E-Wallet of **M/s. PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal and may contact **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No. 6381952519 and 9486092152** during office hours on any working day.

Date: 02.06.2026
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

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BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBTS RECOVERY APPELLATE TRIBUNAL AT CHENNAI

AIR No. 2020 of 2024

Mrs. Padmashree, W/o Sita Ram, 305, Nagarjuna Meadows, Doddaballapur Main Road, Kenchenahalli Gate, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore, Karnataka-560064.

Vs
...APPELLANT

1. Union Bank of India, Asset Recovery Branch, Jeevan Sampige Building, Ground Floor, 2nd Main, Sampige Road, Malleshwaram, Bangalore, Karnataka-560003

2. M/s TARUN TRADERS, Rep. by its Partner Mr. L. S. Lakshminarayana, Sri Rama Nivas, 100, Cross, 2nd Main Road, RHCS Layout, Annapoorneshwari Nagar, BANGALORE, KARNATAKA-560091

3. M. HUCHAPPA, s/o late Mariappa, Mainahalli, Street, Adeshanahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka-560123.

RESPONDENTS
Sri/Madam,
Please take notice that the applicant namely Padmashree, W/o Sita Ram, 305, Nagarjuna Meadows, Doddaballapur Main Road, Kenchenahalli Gate, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore, Karnataka-560064 has filed the above appeal challenging the order dated 28.06.2024 passed in S.A.No.364/2021 by the Hon'ble DRT-I, Bengaluru, before the Hon'ble Debt Recovery Appellate Tribunal, Chennai. The Hon'ble Debt Recovery Appellate Tribunal, Chennai has ordered notice to the 2nd Respondent by way of paper publication returnable by 10.06.2026. Therefore, the above 2nd Defendant is hereby called upon to appear before the Hon'ble Debt Recovery Appellate Tribunal, Chennai, situated at 7th Floor, Additional Office Building, Shastri Bhavan, Haddow Road, Nungambakam, Chennai-600 006 on 10.06.2026 at 10.30 A.M in the above AIR No.2020 of 2024 either in person or through an Advocate failing which the matter will be decided in their absence.

Yours,
GANAPATHY KUPPUSAMY,
Counsel for Appellant

IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING > WINSTON CHURCHILL

QuoteExpress

AXIS BANK
Plot No. 41, Seshadri Road, Anand Rao Circle, Bangalore-560009

POSSESSION NOTICE APPENDIX-IV (RULE 8 (1))

WHEREAS: The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **AXIS BANK LTD**, Under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued, a demand notice, dated **17.07.2025** calling upon the (1) **M/s. AIT TRADING COMPANY Represented by Proprietor Mr.Sunder Poongavannam and Represented by Guarantor Mrs.Tahera Yusuf, 2nd Floor, No.206A Scindia Prime Classic Apartment, 2nd Main Chinnappa Garden, Benson Town Bangalore, Urban Benson Bangalore-560046. (2) Mr. Sundar Poongavannam S/o. Mr. Koppagowder Poongavannam, 206A, 2nd Floor, Scindia Apartment, 2nd Chinnappa Garden, Bengaluru, Bensontown,Karnataka-560046. (Borrower/Applicant), (3) Mrs.Tahera Yusuf W/o. Mr. Sundar Poongavannam 206A, 2nd Floor, Scindia Apartment, 2nd Chinnappa Garden, Bangalore, Bensontown,Karnataka-560046. (Co-Applicant/Guarantor), to repay the amount **Rs. 98,30,384/- (Rupees Ninety Eight Lakh Thirty Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Four Only)** mentioned in the notice towards the loan account no's **924030049420520** being the amount due on **18.07.2025** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.**

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act, read with Rule 6 & 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this **03.06.2026**.

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **AXIS BANK LTD** amount **Rs. 98,30,384/- (Rupees Ninety Eight Lakh Thirty Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Four Only)** being the amount due as on **18.07.2025** and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub Section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF MORTGAGED PROPERTY: SCHEDULE
Description of the property belongs to Mr. Sunder Poongavannam and Mrs. Tahera Yusuf

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of the Northern portion of the property bearing Sy.No.91 of Byadarahalli Village, Now assigned as Corporation Municipal No.21 situated at 2nd Main, Chinnappa Garden, Corporation Ward No.92, Bangalore measuring East to West 205' and North to South (127'+131')2 feet and bounded on: East by: Road, West by: Neighbours Property, North by: Nala, South by: Neighbours Property.

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY : An undivided interest of 394 Sq.foot in the land comprised in the Schedule 'A' property along with Residential Apartment No.206 on the Second Floor in Block 'A' in the property described in Schedule 'A' property situated in the building known as "SCINDIAS PRIME CLASSIC" constructed on the schedule 'A' property and in all measuring super built area of 985 Sq.foot and bounded: East by: Open to Sky, West by: Corridor and Flat No.207, North by: Flat No.205, South by: Open to Sky.

For any clarification, please contact Mr. Prakash K Mobile No. 9986316545.

Date: 03.06.2026
Place: Bangalore

Indian killed, 63 injured as Iran strikes Kuwait airport

Major attack damages passenger terminal, further strains nearly 2-month-old ceasefire

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

AN Indian national was killed and several others were injured after an Iranian missile and drone strike hit Kuwait International Airport on Wednesday, prompting a strong condemnation from New Delhi and highlighting the widening impact of escalating hostilities across the Gulf.

The attack, which Kuwaiti authorities said targeted airport facilities and nearby diplomatic missions, left at least 63 injured, including airport staff and passengers. Flights were temporarily suspended as emergency teams assessed the damage and secured the area. Tehran said the operation was aimed at US military bases in both countries, as well as a vessel near the Strait of Hormuz.

The attacks came after the US military reportedly used a Hellfire missile to strike a Botswana-flagged oil tanker bound for an Iranian port on Kharg Island. The Indian Embassy in Kuwait confirmed the death of an Indian citizen, while the External Affairs Ministry said it was working closely with local



Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad al-Abdullah al-Sabah inspecting the damaged airport on Wednesday after an Iranian attack in Kuwait City | AFP

authorities to assist the injured and ensure the welfare of Indian nationals in the country.

"The Embassy is in touch with the bereaved family and is closely coordinating with the Kuwaiti authorities to render all possible support and assistance to the bereaved family as well as those injured in the incident," the embassy said. "We condemn the attack on the Ku-

wait International Airport to-day in which an Indian national has died and several of our nationals are injured," the MEA said in a statement. "Since the onset of the conflict in West Asia, we have strongly urged that the civilian population and civilian infrastructure must not be targeted. We again call upon parties to cease such attacks." The ministry added

Trump confirms tense exchange with Bibi

US President Donald Trump has confirmed a tense exchange with Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in which he reportedly berated his close ally with expletives. In an interview published Wednesday in the *New York Post*, Trump was asked about the conversation he had with Netanyahu over the phone on Monday. "You said, 'Are you f-ing crazy? What are you f-ing doing? I helped you stay out of jail.' Is that true? Did you speak to him in those terms?" the interviewer asked. "I did," Trump responded. "I was a little bit perturbed at his constantly fighting with Lebanon"

that India was extending "all possible assistance" to those affected and offered its "deepest condolences to the bereaved family."

The Kuwait airport attack was among the deadliest incidents in the Gulf since the latest round of fighting began, with officials reporting one fatality and more than 60 injuries.

At least 9 dead as Israel pounds Lebanon's south

MOSCOW

LEBANON said Israeli strikes on Wednesday killed at least nine people in the country's south, including two paramedics, while another raid hit a car near capital Beirut.

The Israeli military, meanwhile, said it intercepted a "hostile aircraft" and two projectiles that crossed into Israeli territory from Lebanon. Israeli officials have warned the military will strike Beirut's southern suburbs, a Hezbollah stronghold, if the group targets northern Israeli communities, a stance they say has backing from Washington.

Hezbollah said its fighters on Wednesday attacked Israeli troops who have invaded southern Lebanon, but the group has not claimed a cross-border attack since Monday.

Israeli and Lebanese diplomats are to hold a second day of direct talks in Washington—the

fourth round since the fighting erupted on March 2, when Hezbollah entered the Middle East war on the side of its backer Iran with rocket fire at Israel.

Hezbollah is sharply opposed to the direct negotiations. Lebanon's state-run National News Agency (NNA) said an Israeli strike targeted "a car on the Khaldeh road".

An AFP correspondent saw an ambulance and onlookers gathering at the strike site, located on the main highway heading south from the capital. The NNA reported strikes on more than 20 locations in the south, some after Israel's military warned residents of several villages to evacuate.

The health ministry said an Israeli attack on Al-Hawsh near the city of Tyre killed four Syrians and two Palestinians.

But an Israeli spokesperson told AFP's Jerusalem bureau that "we are not aware of any such attack". **AFP**

11 INJURED

Clashes erupt in UK over handcuffing of dying student

LONDON

VIDEO of a dying student who was handcuffed by British police after being stabbed by a Sikh man and falsely accused of racially abusing his murderer sparked outrage on Tuesday, with protesters throwing bricks at police, injuring 11.

Eighteen-year-old Henry Nowak was heard repeatedly telling officers: "I can't breathe" in police bodycam footage captured as he lay mortally wounded in December after a night out with his football team members.

Far-right figures have seized on the case, including firebrand Tommy Robinson, who spoke at a rally in the southern city of Southampton, where the murder took place, claiming police treat white British people as "second-rate citizens".

Protesters then marched through the city centre towards the scene of the crime, where police blocked the road. Demonstrators attacked officers with bricks, bottles and bins, AFP reporters saw.

Interior minister Shabana Mahmood condemned the "disgraceful violence" against police and said on X that "those responsible can expect to face the full force of the law".

A judge on Monday jailed Vickrum Digwa, 23, for at least 21 years for stabbing Nowak to death using a ceremonial knife with a 21-centimetre (eight-inch) blade.

When police arrived at the scene, Digwa lied to officers, telling them Nowak had racially insulted him and that he was the victim.

The footage, which was played during Digwa's trial, shows police accepting the aggressor's accusation, and rather than helping Nowak, initially handcuffing him despite his pleas that he had been stabbed and could not breathe.

One officer can be heard asking Nowak: "You've been stabbed, whereabouts?" before adding: "Don't think you have, mate."

Moments later, the student collapsed and became unconscious. **AFP**

Trump signs order giving govt access to powerful AI models

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump on Tuesday signed an executive order creating a voluntary framework under which AI developers will share advanced models with the government before public release.

The central provision allows companies such as OpenAI, Google or Anthropic to give the government access to their most powerful models for up to 30 days before planned release.

The order was triggered by concerns over Anthropic's Mythos model, which the AI start-up has held back from the public due to its ability to expose vulnerabilities in computer systems, including those of banks, governments and hospitals.

The 30-day window represents a compromise. The original draft called for up to 90 days of pre-release government access, while tech companies had pushed to cut that figure to just 14 days. For OpenAI chief Sam Altman, the executive order "gets the balance right".

"The US should lead on AI by continuing to develop the very best models, making sure they're safe, and getting cyber tools into the hands of trusted defenders," Altman said.

Kent Walker, Google's head of public affairs, called the order an "important step forward" that will ensure "defenders have the AI tools they need to keep America secure".

And Anthropic, which has repeatedly clashed with the Trump administration, called the order "an important step in strengthening America's leadership in AI".

The signing comes after a turbulent few weeks in which the White House appeared close to unveiling the measure, only to pull back abruptly.

According to Politico and other media, David Sacks, the Silicon Valley venture capitalist who served as Trump's AI and crypto czar, called the president to warn that the measure would slow innovation and hurt the United States in its AI race with China—blindsiding White House staff who believed Sacks supported the order.



Donald Trump

Sacks wrote on social media last week that "unnecessary regulation is the biggest threat to innovation in America," adding that winning the AI race required clearing "bureaucratic hurdles" from state legislatures and "woke" Washington politicians.

The order also instructs the Treasury, the National Security Agency and the CISA cybersecurity agency to form an "AI cybersecurity clearinghouse" in voluntary collaboration with industry and critical infrastructure operators to identify software vulnerabilities and find ways to fix them. **AFP**

UK lets sites opt out of Google's AI

LONDON

BRITAIN'S competition watchdog said on Wednesday that it had ordered Google to allow British website owners to opt out of having their content used by the US technology giant's AI search.

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) called the change a "world first" after it had proposed the measure in January. Website publishers, particularly media outlets, claim that artificial intelligence models take their content without compensation.

They also argue that the AI-generated summaries discourage clicks to publishers' original pages, reducing traffic to their sites and in turn cutting their advertising revenue.

Google said on Wednesday that sites opting out would not receive traffic or impressions from its generative AI features.

In response to the opt-out ruling, Google said that "Today, we're beginning to test a new control that lets website owners manage how their links and content appear in generative AI search features," its Search Ecosystem general manager, Mrinalini Loew, said in a statement. The CMA said the ruling "will secure a fairer deal for publishers and consumers". **AFP**

INDONESIA

SLEUTHS RAID NUTRITION AGENCY OFFICES

Indonesian investigators searched the National Nutrition Agency's offices Wednesday a day after the president fired the head of the agency responsible for his troubled free meals programme. It wasn't clear whether the search was tied to a criminal investigation. The programme delivered on a campaign promise of President Prabowo Subianto and aimed to fight malnutrition by feeding nearly 90 million children and pregnant women. But it has come under steep criticism due to high costs and cases of food poisoning among schoolchildren

ASIA MATTERS



SINGAPORE

AVG LIFE EXPECTANCY RISES TO 83.9 YEARS

Life expectancy of Singapore residents increased to 83.9 years in 2025 from 81.8 in 2015, a study has found. According to a Singstat study, male life expectancy improved by 1.3 years to 81.8 years and that of female by 0.9 years from 85.1 years in 2015. Residents aged 65 at present can expect to live up to 21.6 years more.

THAILAND

SHINAWATRA FREED EARLY AFTER PARDON

Thailand's former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra formally completed all his obligations related to a prison sentence on Wednesday, when a royal pardon ended his four-month probation early. The 76-year-old billionaire populist, who was a dominant force in Thai politics for more than two decades, was released from a Bangkok prison last month to cheering crowds. There has since been growing speculation that he might continue to exert his strong influence over the Pheu Thai Party, which is part of the governing coalition

Ukraine targets Russian oil terminal, naval base

MOSCOW/KYIV

UKRAINIAN drones hit energy and military sites in Saint Petersburg on Wednesday as officials gathered for a flagship economic forum in the city, Russian and Ukrainian authorities said.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky described the strikes as "fair" retaliation for Russia's bombardment of Ukraine and threatened to launch more.

Some 20,000 people from 130 countries were to attend the three-day annual Saint Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF)—an event once dubbed "Russia's Davos"—which began on Wednesday.

The Kremlin vowed to respond to the strikes, which came a day after a barrage of Russian missiles and drones killed 23 people across Ukraine. The attacks on Saint Petersburg damaged "several" infra-



A plume of black smoke is seen over the port of St Petersburg, Russia, Wednesday after a Ukrainian drone attack | AP

structure facilities, the city's governor Alexander Beglov said. "Several people were injured. There were no fatalities," Beglov added.

Ukraine said it had hit the Saint Petersburg Oil Terminal

and the city's Kronstadt military base. An AFP reporter saw a plume of black smoke rising from behind the Peter and Paul Fortress, among the city's most popular tourist attractions.

The commander of Ukraine's

drone forces said a Russian warship was hit at the Kronstadt naval base, posting black-and-white footage from the drone of what he said was the attack. Saint Petersburg's main airport closed for hours overnight, while several flights from Moscow to the northern capital were delayed.

Ukrainian officials said the attack was aimed at disrupting the SPIEF forum, where President Vladimir Putin will make a keynote address on Friday.

"The Petersburg forum is opening with a nice plume of black smoke in the background after Ukrainian strikes," said Sergiy Sternenko, an adviser to the Ukrainian defence minister. Smoke was visible from the conference venue as delegates gathered for the first sessions. Valeria, a 32-year-old businesswoman travelling from Moscow to SPIEF told AFP she had got used to the threat of attacks. **AP**

SPOTLIGHT ON INDIA'S HERITAGE, GANDHI'S MESSAGE

The resolution sponsored by Senator Jeremy Cooney noted that it is the custom of the state legislature to recognise official days that are important to the cultural heritage of New York's citizens

During the discussion on the resolution, several state senators hailed India's civilisational heritage, democratic traditions, Gandhi's enduring message of peace and the growing contributions of the Indian-American community in New York and across the US

There are large Indian-American communities throughout New York State, state senator Jack Martins said they have become integral to "our communities, not only participating as business owners and civic leaders, but also academically excelling in our schools. They truly are the path to the future"

PUSH TO RECOGNISE AUG 15 AS INDIA I-DAY IN NEW YORK

The New York State Senate has adopted a resolution urging Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim August 15, 2026 as India Independence Day in the state



A session of New York state senate in progress | AP

India's independence is enormously important to people around the world; it marks the end of a 90-year struggle to achieve stronger civil, political, and economic rights along with self-determination - Resolution in New York state senate

EXPRESS READ

SL court bars Gotabaya from travelling abroad

Colombo: Sri Lankan court on Wednesday imposed an overseas travel ban on former president Gotabaya Rajapaksa and two former military officers in connection with ongoing investigations into the 2019 Easter attack. The Colombo Fort Magistrate's Court issued the order after considering a motion filed by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), which is probing the coordinated suicide bombings on April 21, 2019, that killed 270 people. The travel restrictions also apply to Army Colonel Mohamed Ansar and former intelligence officer Premananda Udalgama



TECHTONIC SHIFT

IT co shares crash, TCS stock falls 8%

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

AFTER 3 sessions of strong buying interest, information technology (IT) stocks crashed on Wednesday as investors rushed to book profits amid the broader market selloff and ongoing AI-related headwinds for the sector.

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) was the biggest loser among the large-cap companies with its stock crashing more than 8% to settle at 2,245 apiece while heavyweights such as Infosys, HCL Technologies and Tech Mahindra fell between 4-6%.

All 10 index constituents of the Nifty IT pack traded significantly lower in trade today with the sectoral index crashing nearly 6%.

5.57%
fall Nifty IT index witnessed on Wednesday

Decline in broader mkt

Sell-off in IT sector, global uncertainties, weighed on broader equity market, with Sensex falling 303.67 points to 74,346.17



The sharp sell-off in the IT sector, along with persistent global uncertainties, also weighed on broader equity market sentiment with the BSE Sensex falling 303.67 points to 74,346.17, while the NSE Nifty50 declined 77.95 points to settle at 23,405.60.

Sushovon Nayak, lead IT analyst, Anand Rathi Institutional Equities, said today's fall is mainly profit-taking, not a worsening of the business or a fundamental shift — just like the last 2-day rally which was sentiment drive. As per Nayak, IT stocks had jumped on comments from Nvidia chief Jensen Huang at the Taiwan conference that AI agents will be a big multiplier for software usage also calmed fears that AI would dent software demand along with Snowflake's upbeat results recently, hopes of stronger AI-led spending, a weaker rupee, and expectations of US rate cuts. The up move ran too far too fast, so investors are simply cashing in their gains, added Nayak.

Sunny Agrawal - Head of Fundamental Research at SBI Securities said that fundamentally, nothing has changed when it comes to IT stocks. "We all know that the entire IT sector has been facing pressure related to AI adoption and its deflationary impact on traditional IT services growth. That is precisely why most Tier-1 IT companies have guided for a very muted growth outlook for FY27, indicating low single-digit growth.



Failure of trading partners to address import of goods made with forced labor is unacceptable
Niamieson Greer, USTR



99% trade negotiation complete

United States Ambassador to India Sergio Gor said 99% of the trade negotiation between India and the US had been completed, only a few technical issues left



Finalising framework agreement

Commerce ministry, in a statement, said India is engaged in discussions with the US to finalise a framework agreement, as announced on February 2, 2026

US PROPOSES 12.5% DUTY ON INDIAN GOODS

India has failed to impose, enforce ban on imports linked to forced labour, says USTR

PUSHPITA DEY @ New Delhi

THE US Trade Representative (USTR) on Wednesday proposed additional 12.5% tariff on imports from 54 nations, including India, on concerns over forced labour under Section 301.

"The failure of our most important trading partners to address the importation of goods made with forced labor is unacceptable. This creates a dynamic where American workers are forced to compete globally on an uneven playing field," US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said on Wednesday.

In its report, the USTR said India has failed to impose and enforce a ban on imports linked to forced labour, calling the practice unreasonable stating that it burdens US commerce. The USTR has proposed a multi-country trade crackdown under Section 301. The US launched probe against several economies, including India, on concerns over forced labour and excess industrial capacity, which were flagged on March 11 and 12, 2026.

Reacting to the proposal, the Indian government said it remains engaged with the US on the matter as part of the Section 301 proceedings. In a statement, commerce ministry said India is engaged in discussions with the US to finalise a framework agreement, as announced on February 2, 2026, and in accordance with the joint statement released on February 7, 2026.

As per the USTR, the findings of its investigation indicate that India's acts, policies and practices related to the failure to impose and effectively enforce a forced-labour import prohibition are unreasonable and burden or restrict US commerce.

Stakeholders wishing to participate in the public hearings must submit their requests and testimony summaries by June 22, 2026. The deadline for written comments is July 6, 2026, followed by USTR public hearings on July 7, 2026. The USTR is expected to issue its final decision in late June or July.

The proposal comes amid the visit of a US negotiating team, led by Assistant US Trade Representative Brendan Lynch, to New Delhi from June 1 to June 4 to finalise the details of a proposed Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) with India.

Meanwhile, US Ambassador to India Sergio Gor said on Wednesday that 99% of the negotiations on a trade deal between the two countries had been completed, with only a few technical and legal issues remaining.

Govt, RBI dismiss report of selling gold worth \$12 billion

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

THE government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Tuesday dismissed as fake a media report claiming that the central bank had sold gold worth about \$12 billion from the country's foreign exchange reserves, asserting that India's gold holdings remain largely unchanged.

The clarification came after Bloomberg reported that the RBI might have sold gold worth about \$12 billion during the fortnight ended May 22 to replenish its declining foreign currency assets. In a post on X, the government's fact-checking unit, PIB Fact Check, said the Bloomberg report suggesting that the RBI may have sold gold worth \$12 billion was incorrect. Citing RBI data, the fact-check unit said the share of gold in India's forex reserves rose from



13.92% at the end of September 2025 to 16.70% as of March 31, 2026, and further to 16.85% as of May 22, 2026.

In its clarification, the RBI said the stock of gold remains unchanged at 880.52 tonnes. However, the value of these holdings fell from \$120 billion on April 24 to \$114.8 billion on May 22, reflecting movements in international gold prices. During the same period, the RBI's foreign currency assets fell from \$555 billion to \$543 billion.

Bloomberg Economics Senior India Economist Abhishek

Gupta had estimated that the RBI likely sold nearly \$12 billion worth of gold in the two weeks ending May 22, even as it purchased about \$7.5 billion in foreign currency assets. As per the report, the fall in gold holdings appeared unusual, mainly after the government raised import duties on the precious metal — a move that would ordinarily have increased the value of the RBI's bullion holdings and dollar assets. This, Gupta argued, suggested that the central bank may have offloaded gold.

Former finance secretary Subhash Garg told TNIE selling gold reserves is not unusual. "It is not at all a taboo to sell gold. It is good to convert some part of gold reserves, say about 100 tonnes, into dollars. The right question to address at the moment is whether the RBI sold gold and whether it has the courage to sell," he said.

Wipro CEO earns ₹49.6 cr in FY26, seven-time more than Rishad Premji's pay

PADMINI DHURVARAJ @ Bengaluru

WIPRO chief executive officer and managing director Srinivas Pallia received total remuneration of nearly ₹49.6 crore in FY26, down from ₹53.6 crore in the previous financial year, according to the company's annual report.

The Bengaluru-headquartered IT services company disclosed that Pallia's compensation was nearly seven times higher than that of Executive Chairman Rishad Premji, who earned about Rs 7.3 crore during the year.

Pallia received compensation of \$5.29 million, comprising salary and allowances, performance-linked variable pay other benefits and deferred benefits. Premji's remuneration stood at \$773,213. Wipro's annual report showed both executives are entitled to a commission of 0.35% on the company's consolidated net profits over the previous financial year.



The latest figures place Pallia among the highest-paid executives in India's IT sector, although he trails some of his peers at larger rivals.

Infosys CEO Salil Parekh earned ₹82.6 crore in FY26, a 2.5% hike from the previous year. His salary included fixed pay, variable pay and gains from stock options and restricted stock units. At Tata Consultancy Services, CEO K Krithivasan earned ₹28 crore in FY26, up 6.3% from a year earlier. His remuneration included salary, benefits and commission linked to company performance.

Wipro said executive remuneration is structured around fixed pay, performance-linked incentives and long-term stock-based rewards. Variable compensation is tied to factors like revenue growth, operating margin performance, incremental net profit and strategic business goals approved by board.

Rajesh Exports inflated revenue by ₹15L cr: Sebi

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

THE Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has barred Rajesh Exports chairman and managing director Rajesh Mehta from the capital market, alleging large-scale financial misrepresentation, disclosure lapses and non-cooperation with an investigation into the company's financial statements.

Based on its preliminary findings, Sebi alleged Rajesh Exports had misrepresented ₹15.15 lakh crore of revenues attributable to subsidiaries during FY21-25, 99.8% of such revenues. The regulator said the disclosures appeared to have presented an inflated and misleading picture of the

group's operational scale and financial health to investors.

The probe, covering the period from April 2020 to March 2024, was initiated after a shareholder complaint raised concerns over potential financial misrepresentation on large outstanding trade receivables. Sebi subsequently appointed an investigating authority and a forensic auditor, BDO India Services, to examine its accounts.

In its interim order, Sebi said Rajesh Exports, a Bengaluru-based jewellery manufacturer, failed to cooperate with investigators and the forensic auditor by not providing access to enterprise resource planning systems, books of accounts and key accounting records.



₹10k cr ATF price stabilisation fund approved

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

AMID soaring aviation fuel prices triggered by the West Asia conflict, the government on Wednesday approved a one-time budgetary support of up to ₹10,000 crore for oil marketing companies (OMCs) to help stabilise aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices for domestic airlines.

In simple terms, the government will provide financial support to OMCs so that they can hold ATF prices and prevent increases beyond a level during the ongoing crisis, protecting airlines from the impact of high aviation fuel costs. Currently, jet fuel, which constitutes nearly 40% of the total operating costs of airlines, has become significantly more expensive since the conflict involving Iran, Israel and the United States began in West Asia.



The three-month-long conflict has significantly disrupted shipping via the Strait of Hormuz, a strategic waterway that handles 20% of global oil and gas supplies. Supply disruptions and higher freight costs have pushed up global crude prices, leading to increases in petrol, diesel, LPG and ATF prices in India.

While OMCs have passed on a substantial portion of the increase in ATF prices, airlines—especially those operating in-

ternational routes—have been bearing the full impact of elevated market-linked fuel costs. As a result, several airlines have curtailed international operations and reduced domestic flights due to the impact of high fuel prices on their overall operations. Industry players have repeatedly urged the government to intervene and stabilise jet fuel prices to prevent further financial stress on the aviation sector.

QUICK RELIEF

- Financial support to OMCs to hold ATF prices and prevent further increases
- The govt will provide an interest-free advance of up to ₹10,000 cr to OMCs

Under the approved mechanism, the government will provide an interest-free advance of up to ₹10,000 crore to OMCs. The corpus will compensate fuel retailers whenever the prevailing Import Parity Price (IPP) of ATF exceeds a benchmark price determined under the scheme.

However, when international ATF prices soften, the differential amount will be recovered from OMCs and returned to the Consolidated Fund of India.

HPCL records 6.4% growth in fuel sales in May on higher demand

Mumbai: Fuel sales across Bharat grew 6.4% YoY in May 2026, with petrol (MS) sales rising by 3.4% and diesel (HSD) sales increasing by 8%, driven by strong demand from transportation, agriculture, freight movement, and rural activity during the peak summer season. Through the month, HPCL met this rising nationwide demand without a single reported supply disruption. Behind these numbers was one of the country's largest continuous fuel distribution exercises. During May 2026, HPCL moved 12,84,715 KL of petrol and 21,48,560 KL of diesel through its retail network across Bharat.



PPA secures top honours at Sagar Aankalan Awards, emerges as leading dry bulk port

Paradip Port Authority (PPA) has achieved a national distinction by securing top ranking at the Sagar Aankalan Awards, organised by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways. Achievement reaffirms Paradip Port's position as one of India's best-performing ports, operational efficiency, and logistics performance. The awards were presented during a ceremony held in Mumbai, where P. L. Haranadh, IRTS, Chairman, PPA, received the Sagar Aankalan Awards from the Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal.

Business & Beyond

Coal minister G. Kishan Reddy visits Odisha, reviews performance of MCL

Bhubaneswar: G. Kishan Reddy, Union Minister of Coal and Mines, visited Odisha on Monday and chaired a review meeting to assess performance of coal and mining sector entities operating in the state. Bibhuti Bhusan Jena, Minister, Commerce & Transport, Steel & Mines, Odisha, joined the session of the review meeting. During the visit, the Union Minister undertook a detailed review of the performance of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and private industry establishments in Odisha.



57th AGM of ICAI Bhubaneswar Chapter elects office bearers

Bhubaneswar: The Bhubaneswar Chapter of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICAI) conducted its 57th Annual General Meeting on May 31, 2026, at CMA Bhawan, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar. Following the AGM, the newly constituted managing committee convened its first meeting and elected the office bearers for the term 2026-27. CMA Avinash Kotni was elected as Chairman, CMA Satya Sundar Mahasur as vice-Chairman, CMA Ajay Kumar Samal as Secretary, and CMA Soumya Ranjan Jena as Treasurer.



BoM opens 66th branch in Bhubaneswar Zone, Odisha

Bhubaneswar: Bank of Maharashtra (BoM), one of the premier public sector banks has opened a new branch at Kukudakhandi in Ganjam District. With this addition, the Bank has now 8 branches in Ganjam District & 66 branches in the state of Odisha. The bank also announced its plans to further strengthen its presence and customer reach in the state of Odisha.



Charles Leclerc has agreed a multi-year extension with his "second family" Ferrari days out from his home Monaco Grand Prix, the Formula One team announced on Wednesday. The 28-year-old has been with Ferrari since 2019, winning eight Grand Prix with his highest finish in the world championship being runner-up to Max Verstappen in 2022.

The real side of Challenger Sindarov

SWAROOP SWAMINATHSAN @ Oslo

WITHIN a few minutes of sitting next to Javokhir Sindarov, it's evidently clear that this year's World Championship is going to be out of the ordinary. His opponent, D Gukesh, has already assembled his team of seconds for the match. They have already cancelled some tournaments to focus on the Championship, the biggest title in individual chess play. His team and he have already mapped out what they will do every day between now and November 23, the day when it's scheduled to start.

Sindarov? His team have started working in the background but the Uzbek 20-year-old says 'he will learn about some of Gukesh's games' over the next few months. Right now, he has some pressing 'emergencies'. Figuring out a way to recover his counter-strike 2 account. Sometime over the next few weeks, he will also be flying to the US to support Uzbekistan at the World Cup. It's why this title clash promises to be a clash of contrasts. Gukesh is known for his intensity, months of preparation and an identity rooted around chess. The person sitting on the opposite side of the board come November? He's light, goofy and has a smile that can light up a dark room. Heck, in the middle of the Candidates tournament in Cyprus in April, he hard-launched his relationship with Bibisara Asaubayeva. For him, chess is



Javokhir Sindarov will meet D Gukesh for world title later this year | FIDE

something to be enjoyed. Fun. Cool. It's why when he's in conversation during Round eight of Norway Chess, he can hardly stop smiling. The Indian press corps ask questions about the World Championship, about Gukesh and about his contemporaries but he just wants to talk about his childhood and video games.

It's the ideal starting point in his story because without his love for video games, chess may not have happened. "Even when I was four or five, I just loved playing on the computer," the 2025 World Cup winner says. "There would be times in the night when after everybody had gone to sleep in the house, I would be up playing games till like 5 or 6 in the morning. That's when my grandfather decided to teach me chess."

If that was his first foray into the board game in a part of the world where the game is re-

vered, his second tryst showed that he had the talent. At first, his family members had no problems checkmating him. Less than six months later, he was beating his family members. Father and grandfather were routinely suffering in his hands. Pretty soon, the hold he had over his family extended to age-group tournaments covering Uzbekistan. He was wiping the floor with the competition and it also contained a certain Nodirbek Abdusattarov, another among the country's golden generation.

Even as his ascent continued and fame spread far and wide—he was of course part of the team which won gold at the Olympiad in Chennai—his love for video games never died. It's kind of why he says he's not very professional as a chess player. "Everyone in chess I think should generally be more professional than me (laughs). I

like playing games and I have never felt anything wrong about it." He confirms that his current coach hasn't set any screen time—not yet anyway—but he does say that video games, for him, acts as an important release. "Maybe the emergency I had yesterday is a signal that I have to focus more on chess but I like to play counter-strike."

While the World No. 4 has always thought of himself as a player with 'lots of potential', he has combined that natural ability with spending a lot of time studying the game over the last year. "It's not like I got lucky or something (at the World Cup or the Candidates)," he says. "I spent a lot of time, 9-10 hours per day for about 80-90 days in the last year. And the results are there." Apart from winning two FIDE tournaments, a ratings jump of 67 in the last 12 months is also proof. Though he's guarded when asked about the match against Gukesh, his ambitions are pretty clear. "I'm playing chess because I want to become better than everyone else," he says, that smile still plastered on his face. "I don't know if I will but I want to try. Why else am I playing the game?" Once he comes back from the World Cup and post the home Olympiad in Samarkand in August, the 20-year-old phenom will start learning Gukesh's games. He will keep doing the things that give him happiness and chess is only a small part of it.

But make no mistake. He's coming for the throne.

SKY set to be replaced as India T20I captain

The 35-year-old T20 WC-winning skipper may be replaced soon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

THE murmurs have been going around for a while. Will Suryakumar Yadav be replaced as India's T20I captain? Who will be his successor? Can a T20 World Cup-winning skipper lose his job the next series after the title triumph? These questions were asked around quietly throughout the recently concluded Indian Premier League.

While some felt it could be harsh to remove a captain just after bringing glory to the country, others felt it is time to move forward. It did not help that Yadav had a poor run with the bat during the IPL and missed games due to wrist injury. There were informal discussion on his future when the squad for Afghanistan series was picked last month. The doubts and chatter only grew louder when the 35-year-old was left out of the Asian Games long list, which included Shreyas Iyer, Rajat Patidar, Shubman Gill and Vaibhav Sooryavanshi. Now, the end seems inevitable with multiple reports indicating that Yadav is set to be replaced as India's T20I captain when the selectors meet to pick the squad for Ireland and England T20Is. Appointed as



T20I captain ahead of Hardik Pandya, the then vice-captain, after Rohit's T20I retirement post the T20 World Cup triumph, Yadav has an impeccable win record. In the two years he headed the team, India went on to win every single T20I series with the icing on the cake being the T20 World Cup earlier this year.

However, it is some ways understandable that Yadav was always a transitional captain despite him expressing his desire to continue till the 2028 T20 WC and the Olympics. When he took over, he was 33 and soon Gill was named his deputy before losing his place ahead of the T20 WC. Gill's—who is already Test and ODI skipper—appointment at the time was indicator enough that Yadav's future as India captain was time-limited. And the

precedent was set when Rohit was replaced as ODI captain by Gill in the first series after the Champions Trophy triumph. Now, with another two years to go for the next T20 WC, the selectors and the BCCI seemed to have decided to move on from the 35-year-old Mumbai batter and build for the future.

Who could be successor?

Shreyas Iyer, who has had back-to-back stellar IPL seasons despite Punjab Kings not qualifying this year, seems to be the front-runner, with him slotting in place of Yadav at No 4. However, whether Iyer is a name that would be agreed upon by the selectors, BCCI and head Gautam Gambhir remains to be seen. Which is why Tilak Varma, Ishan Kishan or Sanju Samson could be considered for the time being. While Varma has not led at IPL level or higher, both Kishan and Samson have shown leadership qualities over the years. Gill, he had a sensational season leading Gujarat Titans to the final, who if appointed could become the all-format captain. Either way, it will have to be someone who could lead India over the next couple of years.

Pragg was in control from the start: Coach

SWAROOP SWAMINATHSAN @ Oslo

IN 2007, when Viswanathan Anand was at the peak of his powers, he beat Magnus Carlsen twice in the same Classical event in Linares. This wasn't out of the ordinary. Carlsen wasn't anywhere near the world's best. In fact, the duo used to play training games before Anand's title tilt in 2008.

But the Norwegian developed rather quickly post that. In fact, since that Linares tournament in 2007, he had never once lost two Classical games to the same player in a single event. Not even in a gruelling World Championship where players grind it out over a series of games in three weeks. That sequence came to a shuddering halt at the hands of R Praggnanandhaa who beat him for the second time at the event. How does his coach, Vaibhav Suri, see this win? "It was smoother and a little less chaotic (than



R Praggnanandhaa

the win last week)," he told this daily. "He was in control from the start and took good decisions on the board. Our preparation worked very well today. That was evident in the time advantage he got and managed to put pressure."

Carlsen, who has now lost four Classical games at a single event (first time in over 10 years), has had a strange tournament by his very high standards and some of it has stemmed from his use of time. He has generally managed time very effectively but over the last 10 days, he has found ways to bleed one of the game's most important resources. That was in play against the 2733-rated Pragg again.

Results (Rd 8): Open: Alireza Firouzja bt D Gukesh, Wesley So bt Vincent Keymer (Armageddon); Women: Bibisara Assaubayeva bt Divya Deshmukh, Zhu Jiner bt Ju Wenjun, Koneru Humpy bt Anna Muzychuk (Armageddon).

Full story: newindianexpress.com

EXPRESS READ

Asian meet: Gurvindervir to lead Indian challenge

NEW DELHI: National record holder in men's 100m, Gurindervir Singh, will lead a 29-member strong Indian contingent at the second Asian Relays Championships, to be held in the Chinese city of Shangyu on June 20 and 21. The Indian contingent, selected by the Athletics Federation of India will compete in all six relay events in China, says AFI president Bahadur Singh.

India women lose T20I series to England

TAUNTON (UK): Alice Capsey's fiery 82 and Heather Knight's composed unbeaten 70 powered England to a series-clinching six-wicket victory over India in the third and final Women's T20I here on Tuesday. England won the series 2-1.

India thrash Taipei 13-1 in U-18 Asia Cup

KAKAMIGAHARA (JAPAN): The Indian men's hockey team produced a clinical display, thrashing Chinese Taipei 13-1 in its last Pool A match to storm into the semifinals of the U-18 Asia Cup 2026 here on Wednesday.

Why FIFA WC venues are getting rebranded

AGENCIES

THE stadiums that will host World Cup matches are removing all traces of their usual corporate sponsors in anticipation of the tournament that starts next week.

At AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, home of the NFL's Dallas Cowboys, workers on Tuesday continued the process of covering the "AT&T" on the stadium's facade. The work began last week. The reason? AT&T, and the other stadium sponsors at World Cup venues, are not FIFA sponsors, which are guaranteed exclusive rights during the tournament that runs through July 19.

As a result, most of the 16



Spain players attend a training session ahead of the friendly against Iraq at the Ciudad del Futbol in Las Rozas, outside Madrid, on Wednesday | AFP

Referee turns son's 'coach', gets show-cause notice

FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

A DEEP urge to see his son do well in his final bout and make it to the India squad for the 2026 Asian Games landed a senior wrestling referee in a spot of bother. Much to his disappointment, not only did his son lose the final bout in the 130kg weight category but he also received a show-cause notice for conflict of interest.

The Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) served the notice to Jaibir Singh on Wednesday. Jaibir is currently in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia to officiate during the third Ranking Series scheduled to commence on Thursday. The federation has asked him to submit his explanation by or before June 10.

The selection trials were held in Lucknow on Sunday. Jaibir was one of the officials appointed by the WFI for the competition. "It has been alleged that during the final bout of the 130kg Greco-Roman style, you removed your referee kit and assumed the role of coach for

Wrestlers suspended for fake birth certificates

Meanwhile, the WFI also suspended five men wrestlers for four years for submitting fake birth certificates. Interestingly, one of them also won the selection trials held in Lucknow to select the teams for the U15 and U20 Asian Championships. The notice said that the wrestlers claimed that they were born in Chandigarh and submitted birth certificates claiming they were issued by the Chandigarh Municipal Corporation. However, on verification, the WFI found out that the certificates were not genuine and their records are not traceable in office records. The name of the selected wrestler has been removed from the list, which was issued by the federation on Wednesday.

your son while continuing to remain associated with the event in your capacity as an appointed referee. Such conduct constitutes a serious conflict of interest and is contrary to the principles of neutrality, impartiality, and professional ethics expected from a technical official of WFI," read the notice issued by the WFI.

"As a member of the Referee Commission and a technical official, you are expected to maintain complete neutrality and avoid any situation that may give rise to an actual or perceived conflict of interest. In circumstances where a participating wrestler is closely related to an appointed official, it is incumbent upon the official to disclose the conflict and recuse himself from duties that may compromise the integrity and fairness of the competition. Your alleged actions of simultaneously performing the roles of referee and coach during the same event have raised serious concerns regarding compliance with WFI rules and regulations," added the notice.

Jaibir confirmed that he stood near the coach's corner during his son's bout but claimed he did so after discharging his duties as the referee. "I changed my referee kit as I have to catch a train for New Delhi. The next day I was scheduled to fly out for Mongolia to officiate in the Ranking Series. On my way out, I saw my son taking on another wrestler in the final. Also there was no coach by Ronak's side, so I stood there and tried to give him a few tips," the referee said.

host stadiums are being rebranded with generic city names. AT&T Stadium will be called Dallas Stadium.

In Seattle, black banners were hung to cover the "Lumen" name at Lumen Field. The home of the NFL's Seahawks is now going by the name Seattle Stadium. Even Latin America's largest soccer stadium, the iconic Banorte Stadium in Mexico, has been temporarily renamed Mexico City Stadium.

An exception is BC Place in Vancouver, British Columbia, which is owned by the government, so it's called BC Place Vancouver. Other stadiums and their World Cup monikers include: MetLife Stadium in East

Rutherford, New Jersey, which will be called New York New Jersey Stadium, and Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, California, renamed San Francisco Bay Area Stadium.

Iran squad to reach Mexico early Sunday

ISTANBUL: Iran's World Cup squad will arrive early on Sunday in Mexico where they will be based for the duration of the global football tournament, a team statement said Wednesday. "The Iran national football team will depart Antalya for Tijuana at 15:20 (1220 GMT) on Saturday, June 6, and is scheduled to arrive in Mexico at 1:30 am (0730 GMT) on Sunday, June 7," it said.



India's Ayush Shetty in action on Wednesday | BADMINTON PHOTO

Ayush advances, SatChi retire mid-match

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

AYUSH Shetty produced a fighting performance to advance while Singapore Open winners Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty were forced to retire midway through their opening-round match due to an injury at the Indonesia Open here on Wednesday.

After being outplayed in Game 1 against Weng Hong Yang of China, Ayush was staring at exit towards the closing stages. However, he found his rhythm in the nick of time to level the contest before going on to clinch the match (8-21, 22-20, 21-15).

Satwik and Chirag were trailing 6-11 against Malaysian pair of Aaron Tai and Kang Khai Xing when they decided to withdraw due to injury to Satwik.

Mixed doubles pairing of Rohan Kapoor and Ruthvika Shivani Gadde advanced to the second round after beating Chinese Taipei's Yang Po-Hsuan and Hu Ling Fang. However, veteran HS Prannoy and youngster Unnati Hooda bowed out after losing their respective singles matches.

Mensik tames Fonseca

Czech youngster Jakub Mensik produced a brilliant display to upstage Brazilian teenager Joao Fonseca and reach the semifinals late on Tuesday. The 20-year-old Mensik beat Fonseca 6-4, 6-3, 7-6 (3) to extend his best run at a Grand Slam.

Balaji and Demoliner bow out

Indian tennis player N Sriram Balaji and his Brazilian part-

ner Marcelo Demoliner saw their impressive men's doubles campaign end in the quarterfinals after a straight-sets (3-6, 4-6) defeat to Harri Heliovaara and Henry Patten.

SELECT RESULTS: Q/Fs: Women: D Shnaider (RUS x25) bt A Sabalenka (BLR x1) 3-6, 7-5, 6-0. M Chwalinska (POL) bt A Kalinskaya (RUS x22) 7-6 (3), 6-3. Men: J Mensik (CZE x26) bt J Fonseca (BRA x28) 6-4, 6-3, 7-6 (3); F Cobolli (ITA x10) bt F Auger-Aliassime (CAN x4) 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

FRENCH OPEN

AGENCIES @ Paris

ARYNA Sabalenka's bid for a first French Open title was left in tatters as she fell apart in a bizarre defeat by Russian 25th seed Diana Shnaider in the quarter-finals on Wednesday.

The World No 1 led by a set and a double-break before exiting the tournament in a blaze of unforced errors, collapsing to a 3-6, 7-5, 6-0 loss in blustery

conditions on Court Philippe Chatrier. Shnaider will face Polish qualifier Maja Chwalinska in the semifinals on Thursday, with Marta Kostyuk or Mirra Andreeva awaiting the winner in Sunday's final.

"Well honestly I'm speechless, I'm super happy. Obviously tough conditions with the wind," said Shnaider after beating a top-10 player for only the second time in her career.



Diana Shnaider will face Polish qualifier Maja Chwalinska in the semis | AFP





Experience India's first driverless 'Air Train' to open at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport soon



The FRIENDS Experience is making its India debut at the Jio World Garden in Bandra, Mumbai

WEST BENGAL

In West Bengal, wellness traditions have long evolved around coping with oppressive humidity and reducing the risk of seasonal illnesses. Much of this knowledge is rooted in simple kitchen practices that blur the line between food and medicine. One of the state's most enduring summer staples is *Panta Bhat*. Cooked rice is soaked overnight, allowing a natural lactic acid fermentation process to take place. During spring, many households consume a paste made from tender neem leaves and raw turmeric on an empty stomach. Known as a traditional immunity-boosting remedy, it is valued for its perceived blood-purifying properties and its role in strengthening the body's natural defences. When temperatures soar, Bengal turns to *Aam Porar Shorbot*. Green mangoes are roasted over charcoal, mashed and blended with rock salt, cumin and mint to create a refreshing drink.



Panta Bhat

Aam Porar Shorbot



Kansa Thali Pada Abhyanga



Rugra and Putu



Vetiver roots

SRUSHTI KULKARNI

If the wellness traditions of Southern India are defined by lush tropical landscapes and those of Western India by deserts, mountains and coastlines, Eastern India tells an altogether different story. Stretching across the fertile river plains of West Bengal and Bihar, the temple towns of Odisha and the forested heartlands of Jharkhand, the region's approach to wellbeing is deeply rooted in climate adaptation, seasonal resilience and a remarkable understanding of local ecosystems. For travellers, wellness here is less about structured therapies and more about everyday practices woven into daily life.

ROOTS OF RENEWAL

Across West Bengal, Odisha, Bihar and Jharkhand, centuries-old practices reveal how food, forests and folklore continue to nurture wellbeing...

JHARKHAND

Wellness traditions here are inseparable from the forests of the Chota Nagpur Plateau and the knowledge systems of Indigenous communities such as the Santhal, Munda, Oraon and Ho. Much of this wisdom falls under *Horopathy*, an ancient ethnobotanical practice built on a deep understanding of the natural world. The oil extracted from *Mahua* seeds, *Doko* Oil, is equally valued. Applied through massage, it is traditionally used to relieve chronic rheumatism and support muscles affected by weakness or wasting. Among Jharkhand's best-known traditional remedies is *Hadjod*, often referred to as the bone-binder vine. A paste made from *Cissus* and applied to fractures or sprains before being secured with leaves. Communities have long used the treatment to encourage faster bone healing and recovery. The forests also provide a seasonal source of nourishment through *Rugra* and *Putu*, wild earthball mushrooms that emerge around Sal tree roots after the first monsoon rains. Naturally high in protein and low in fat, they are traditionally eaten to restore strength, boost vitality and aid recovery after illness or fever.



Hadjod

BIHAR

Drought-resistant grains, mineral-rich springs and ingenious cooling techniques all play a role in the Bihar lifestyle, prioritising balance and endurance. The ancient town of Rajgir is renowned for its natural hot sulphur springs, particularly *Brahmakund*. For generations, locals have visited these thermal waters during seasonal transitions, believing their mineral-rich composition helps ease arthritis, skin conditions and joint stiffness. Traditional cooling methods extend to the humble clay water pot. Water stored in a *surahi* or *ghara* is often packed with fragrant *khus* (vetiver) roots. The unglazed clay cools the water naturally through evaporation, while the vetiver lends both flavour and antioxidant properties. The combination has long been regarded as a natural coolant during Bihar's dry and punishing summers. Long before flaxseed gained international recognition as a health food, Bihar's kitchens were making *Tisi Chutney*. Roasted flaxseeds are ground into a fiery condiment and mixed with mustard oil, creating a nutrient-rich accompaniment traditionally consumed during winter to support joint health and provide essential fatty acids.



Tisi Chutney

WELLNESS BY NATURE

- Hot summers call for cooling foods and fermented preparations.
- Forest-based remedies strengthen immunity naturally.
- Simple meals like *Panta*, *Sattu* and *Torani* restore and nourish.
- Rituals, festivals and community practices keep mind and spirit aligned.

TRADITIONS THAT HEAL

- Oil of Life**
Mahua seeds, *Doko* Oil and herbal massages are used to relieve chronic pain and promote relaxation.
- Forest Pharmacy**
Communities rely on local herbs, roots and leaves for immunity, strength and recovery.
- Sacred Kitchens**
Rugra and *Putu* are high in protein and low in fat and are eaten to restore strength and aid recovery.
- Massage Rituals**
Kansa Thali Pada Abhyanga is a nightly foot massage performed using warm ghee.

Watch this space for more on wellness travel...

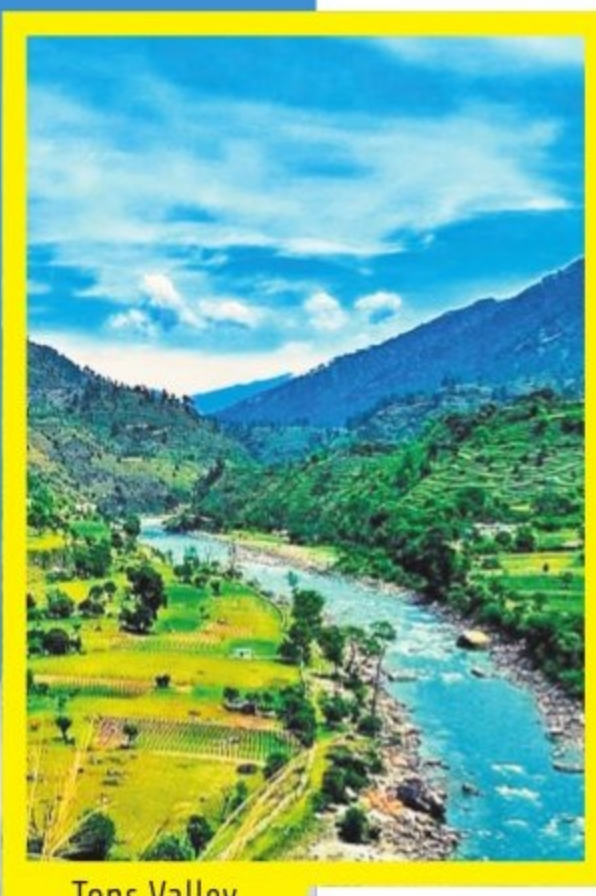


Rafting



Trekking in the valley

Tons Valley Uttarakhand's new adventure destination



Tons Valley

A REMOTE HIMALAYAN VALLEY WHERE ADVENTURE, MYTHOLOGY AND MOUNTAIN CULTURE CONVERGE....

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

RUNNING along the border between Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, this remote Himalayan valley has recently stepped into the spotlight following the Uttarakhand Government's announcement that it is 'India's Next Great Adventure Destination.' Tucked away in the Jaunsar-Barwar region of north-western Uttarakhand, the Tons Valley is one of the state's most distinctive landscapes, both geographically and culturally. The valley takes its name from the Tons River, the largest tributary of the Yamuna. Remarkably, the Tons carries a greater volume of water than the Yamuna itself before the two rivers meet at Kalsi near Dehradun. Flowing through a landscape of towering pine, deodar and oak forests, the river has shaped both the region's dramatic terrain and its growing reputation among adventure enthusiasts. Yet the appeal of the Tons Valley extends far beyond its natural beauty. The upper reaches of the valley are home to the Mahasari people, whose traditions and customs differ markedly from those of Uttarakhand's Garhwali and Kumaoni communities. Their cultural identity is closely tied to local legends and interpretations of the *Mahabharata*, giving the region a character unlike anywhere else in India.

One of the valley's most intriguing distinctions lies in its historical association with the Kauravas. While much of India reveres the Pandavas, certain communities in the upper Tons Valley have traditionally held the Kauravas in high regard. This unusual connection is reflected in the village of Netwar, where a rare temple dedicated to Karna, the noble yet tragic ally of the Kauravas, continues to draw visitors interested in the region's unique epic heritage.

The valley's most significant religious landmark, however, is the Mahasu Devta Temple in Hanol. Built in the traditional Huna style using stone and wood, the temple is dedicated to Mahasu Devta, the chief deity of the region. Local folklore recounts that the deity journeyed from Kashmir to free the valley from a demon, a story that remains deeply woven into local belief systems.

For adventure seekers, the Tons River offers some of India's finest technical white-water rafting and kayaking, with challenging Grade III to Grade V rapids. The valley also serves as the gateway to renowned trekking routes, including Har Ki Dun, Bali Pass and Kedarkantha. Adding to its appeal are its flourishing apple orchards, which produce premium-quality fruit that is exported across the country, making the Tons Valley a compelling blend of adventure, culture and mountain life.

RATNAGIRI beyond the mangoes

If you want to look past the orchards, here is your quick travel guide to the best of this Konkan heartland...

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

RATNAGIRI may be best known as the home of the celebrated Alphonso mango, but this stretch of Maharashtra's Konkan coast offers far more than its famed fruit. Among Ratnagiri's most fascinating attractions is the Thibaw Palace, a reminder of an unexpected chapter in Indian and Burmese history. Built in 1910, the elegant red-brick structure was used by the British to exile Thibaw Min, the last king of Burma, now Myanmar. Distinguished by its symmetrical design and Burmese pagoda-style roofs, the palace today houses a small archaeological museum that sheds light on the region's history.

A short distance away stands Ratnadurg Fort, also known as Bhagwati Fort. This imposing horseshoe-shaped stronghold is surrounded by the Arabian Sea on three sides, creating dramatic coastal vistas. Visitors can stroll along its broad stone ramparts while taking in panoramic views of the shoreline. Within the fort complex lies the peaceful Bhagwati Temple, an important local place of worship. Further north, Jaigad Fort occupies a commanding position where the Shastri River meets the Arabian Sea. Dating back to the 16th century, the fort overlooks the estuary from a rugged cliffside setting. Adjacent to it stands a striking British-era lighthouse built in 1932, adding another layer of maritime history to the landscape.



Thibaw Palace

For many travellers, the journey itself becomes a highlight along the *Aare Ware* Coastal Road. Often regarded as one of the most scenic drives in the Konkan, the route climbs along dramatic cliffs and reveals spectacular views of two pristine crescent-shaped beaches separated by a single hill. No visit to Ratnagiri is complete without stopping at Ganpatipule, home to a 400-year-old Swayambhu Ganesha idol carved from a monolith. Set beside a beautiful sandy beach, the temple remains one of the region's most revered pilgrimage sites. History enthusiasts can also visit the Tilak Ali Museum, the preserved ancestral Konkani-style home of freedom fighter Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, now recognised as a national monument.



TRAVEL DIARY

This ferry offers a luxurious experience in the Andamans

Travel between the Andaman Islands in style aboard the *Nautika Pride*, positioned as the archipelago's most luxurious ferry. Accommodating up to 400 passengers, it operates between Port Blair, Havelock (Swaraj Dweep) and Neil Island (Shaheed Dweep). Travellers can choose from four classes — Luxury, Royal, VIP and Business — while enjoying two cafés and open-air viewing decks.



Now vacation across Odisha's new Caravan Parks



Odisha is making a strong push into premium road travel with the launch of its Caravan Tourism Service. The initiative is backed by a new Standard Operating Procedure for dedicated caravan parks, particularly in ecologically sensitive areas. The Forest Department has approved carefully regulated, low-impact caravan campsites across seven of the state's leading wildlife sanctuaries and national parks.



DAY'S DIARY

1st Pulitzer Prize

On this day in 1917, the first Pulitzer Prizes, funded by Joseph Pulitzer, were awarded by Columbia University School of Journalism

THE BACKGROUND

In his will, Joseph identified nine specific prizes and four scholarships but tasked the advisory board with adapting and modifying the awards as needed over time



NOMINATIONS

Each year, journalists, photographers, authors, playwrights and composers submit more than 2,400 entries for Pulitzer Prize consideration



THE CEREMONY

Every year, the winners gather at a luncheon at Columbia University, where they receive their awards from the university's president

City Express' best picks to hang out with friends

PG 2

Alcohol-free bhajan clubbing events, which seek to give traditional bhajans a new twist, are catching on in the city



Rahasya performing during a bhajan clubbing event

SPIRITUALLY HIGH

MAHIMA NAGARAJU

STROBE lights flashing, music you can feel in your bones and bodies moving together as a collective – this is the typical scene at any club in the pub city of India. However, at bhajan clubbing events catching on in the city's concert halls, malls and grounds, you're likely to hear *Raghu Pathi Raghava Raja Ram* or the *Hanuman Chalisa* instead set to the same energising energy. "Bhajans are all about surrendering and devoting yourself to the Almighty. And at its core, clubbing is similar as it helps let loose. We are trying to bring both these traditions together," says Soumya Ranjan, founder of Desi Clans, which organises bhajan clubbing events in the city.

For 28-year-old Preeti Choudhary, an operations lead, who grew up in a home where bhajans were a constant, these events came as a surprise. "I'm used to satsangs. Seeing someone holding an electric guitar and chanting *Hare Krishna* was completely new," she laughs. For a young crowd that lives a stress-filled life and uses clubbing as an outlet, Choudhary adds that bhajan clubbing brings an added layer of catharsis, saying, "We find an escape in clubbing and then the next day, have to deal with a hangover. But here, I feel people like bhajan clubbing because the nervous system just calms down and you don't end up with a hangover later."

Even those who didn't always

have a deep-rooted relationship with devotional music or religion, like influencer-photographer Vandana Rout, have found something to enjoy in it. "My friends and I decided to attend because we were seeing it all over Instagram and were curious," she says. But once there, the mood drew her in. "What stood out for me was so many like-minded people singing together. You can feel the energy and that's really overwhelming. Even when I got home, I was still singing the bhajans," she explains.

The crowds at these events are mostly youth, but it's common to see kids, middle-aged people, and elderly people, too. Jatin Mathur, a member of the band Rahasya – The Musical Project, which is set to perform at a bhajan clubbing event being held at Orion Mall on June 27, shares, "We take bhajans and combine them with rock, pop music, some even have a jazz sound. That's how people started following us, wanting to attend our concerts, and that's how we started bhajan clubbing."

While these events have become a regular nightlife fixture in northern parts of the country since late last year, Bengaluru has been a bit slow to catch on, notes Ranjan, attributing this to a lack of performers familiar with the style of music bhajan clubbing

"I feel people like bhajan clubbing because the nervous system just calms down and you don't end up with a hangover later"

Preeti Choudhary, operations lead



Vandana Rout

needs, saying, "We want to have a separate vibe compared to normal bhajan events, else, the essence of bhajan clubbing won't come through. We look for people with a bit of rock influence, a powerful voice and stage presence to engage with people. As it's a new segment, very few artists are available in this space and they're much more in the north."

For performers like Mathur, whose group is based in Delhi, and others who come down south to perform at these events, the language barrier poses a challenge, which he says contributes to the slow spread. He shares, "It's hard to connect with the essence of the bhajan when it's in a different language and people prefer bhajans from their own culture," he shares, adding that they've started including a few 'South Indian bhajans and devotional Bollywood songs like *O Paalanhaare* from *Lagaan*."

What's next for this devotional dance movement? Choudhary hopes that it is not a passing trend, while Ranjan is optimistic that this will only grow, even as the city remains spoiled for choice in its nightlife.

MAHIMA NAGARAJU

JUST days after Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) brought home the IPL 2026 trophy, eagle-eyed viewers may have spotted a bright turquoise ring on actor **Anushka Sharma's** hands as she held her breath during a tense moment in the qualifier. The ring generated buzz online, with people wondering what the eye-catching accessory was until a netizen pointed out that it was colloquially called a 'japa counter' (prices start as low as ₹100)

A tally-keeping ring, these are popular in metro cities, notes Mahotsaha Chaitanya Dasa, general manager and head of communications and public relations at ISKCON, Bengaluru, saying, "It is popular among people who have a busier lifestyle, especially those working in corporates, students, and travelling in public transport. Maybe Anushka Sharma also wanted to be able to continue her prayers discreetly, even in a stadium. We sell around 2,000 each month."

Sharma and her spouse, Virat Kohli, are known to be followers of Premanand Govind Sharan, a guru and worshipper of Radha and Krishna based in Vrindavan. They even paid a visit to his ashram on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, social media executive Rushali Mirazkar notes that she started using it after seeing a friend do it, adding that she's been seeing it among other celebrities too. "I've seen Samantha and Kohli use it," she says, adding, "My dad wears the traditional mala, but I don't think Gen Z and millenni-



als prefer using it. The counter is useful and affordable."

It isn't just Hindus using these counters either, with Kulsum Raqeeb, a fashion designer, counting her daily Dhikr prayers. She says, "It was nice to see Sharma using it, even though we come from different faiths. It is heartening to see how much we have in common when it comes to spirituality and the desire to stay connected through prayer and remembrance. For centuries, people have used prayer beads or their fingers to keep track of physical mantras and other forms of devotional recitation. The digital counter feels like a modern adaptation of the same practice."

However, some, including Mahotsaha Chaitanya, are against switching to digital counters completely but advocate using them in specific situations, noting, "Chanting is a sacred act which has to be done with focus and devotion. Chanting with tulsi seeds is best as it is dear to Lord Krishna. This is for those who are in unclean circumstances, like on long flights or train journeys where one cannot touch the beads, but yet wants to chant."

Every prayer counts

Recently spotted on Anushka Sharma at RCB matches, tally rings, sold in India as 'japa' or prayer counter rings, are popular among youngsters across religions as a practical, discreet accessory to help them pray



Kulsum Raqeeb

FOCUS FEATURE

RISM, U ALBANY PARTNER TO REIMAGINE HIGHER EDUCATION



(From Left to Right) Fardin Sanai, Vice President for University Advancement & Executive Director of The University at Albany Foundation, Prof. Gurucharan, Executive Director and Chief Strategic Officer, Ramaiah Institute of Science and Management, Carol H. Kim, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Provost's Office, Executive Council, Havidán Rodríguez, President, Executive Council, Dr M R Jayaram, Chancellor, RISM, Thenkurussi (Kesh) Kesavadas, Vice President for Research & Economic Development, Executive Council, Balakrishnan (Prabha) Prabhakaran, AI Plus Institute Director; Empire Innovation Professor

Ramaiah Institute of Science and Management (RISM), in collaboration with the University at Albany, State University of New York, hosted a high-level Curtain Raiser event that brought together global academic leaders, industry experts, researchers and technology innovators to discuss the future of higher education in an era shaped by artificial intelligence (AI), interdisciplinary learning and translational research.

The event positioned RISM as a future-focused institution committed to bridging the gaps between education, innovation, industry and societal impact. Through a series of discussions, speakers emphasized the need to redesign universities as engines of innovation that prepare students not only for employment but also for leadership in a rapidly changing world.

Delivering the keynote address, Prof. Gurucharan, Executive Director and Chief Strategic Officer, called for a fundamental rethinking of universities in an AI-driven era. He stressed that AI should enhance learning rather than replace it and highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary education. Future engineers, he said, must become systems thinkers capable of solving complex real-world challenges. He also underscored the role of translational research and industry partnerships in converting scientific discoveries into scalable solutions with societal relevance. Describing AI as an "epistemic challenge," he argued that universities must cultivate creativity, judgment, ethics and curiosity to

remain relevant.

A key highlight of the event was a fireside conversation between Dr. M. R. Jayaram, Chairman of Gokula Education Foundation (Medical) and Chancellor of RISM, and Dr. Havidán Rodríguez, President of the University at Albany, moderated by senior journalist Stanley Carvalho.

Dr. Jayaram emphasized the need to bridge the longstanding divide between academia and industry. He said RISM's partnership with the University at Albany is built on a shared vision of creating a next-generation university model that combines academic excellence with industry relevance. He noted that RISM would focus on deep science and translational research aimed at solving real-world problems.

Dr. Rodríguez described the collaboration as the co-creation of a new global model for higher education. While AI will transform learning and work, he said, it cannot replace essential human attributes such as judgment, creativity, ethics, teamwork and critical thinking. He added that the partnership would provide students with unique opportunities and prepare them for future leadership roles.

The first panel discussion, "The Future of Engineering Education," featured Prof. Carol Kim, Kamal Balli, Prof. Kavitha Chandra and Prof. Swarni Manohar. Panelists agreed that conventional engineering education remains overly siloed and disconnected from emerging realities such as AI-driven automation, climate change and electrification. They advocated systems-based learning,

interdisciplinary collaboration and stronger industry integration.

The second panel, "AI in Higher Education – The Creative Disruptor," featured Prof. Balakrishnan Prabhakaran, Sanjay Jain and Dr. Qutub Saifee. The discussion focused on how generative AI is reshaping teaching and learning. Speakers stressed that institutions must increasingly prioritize critical thinking, creativity, empathy and collaboration while embracing AI as a tool to enhance education.

The third panel, "Translational Research and Industry Partnerships," featured Prof. Kesh Kesavadas, Jayamani Doss and Prashant Doreswamy. Panelists highlighted the importance of multidisciplinary engineers and demonstrated how industry-academia collaborations can accelerate innovation and societal impact.

Summarizing the deliberations, Prof. B. N. Raghunandan, former Dean of Aerospace Engineering at IISc and Chairman of the RISM Task Force, identified five priorities for the future: systems thinking, social and psychological skills, multidisciplinary engineering education, continuous faculty development and translational research.

The overarching message from the Curtain Raiser was clear: universities must evolve into interdisciplinary, industry-connected and AI-enabled institutions that transform knowledge into meaningful societal impact. Through its partnership with the University at Albany, RISM aims to build exactly such a model and prepare a generation capable of shaping the future.

KNOW YOUR CITY



Arun Prasad, city-based history researcher, unravels interesting facts about Bengaluru in this weekly quiz series. So it's time for you to find out how familiar you are with the city, beyond its heritage buildings, IT parks and the pub culture.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line '**Know Your City Quiz**'. Correct answers and names of first three respondents with right answers will be featured in **CE** on Thursday.

THE RIGHT ANSWERS ARE

1) Yelahanka 2) Devanahalli 3) Bangalore Palace

THE RIGHT ANSWERS ARE

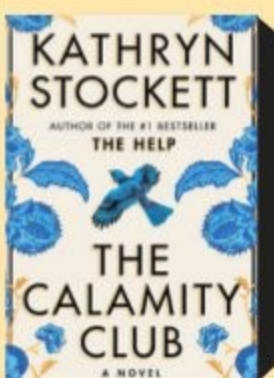
1) Abhijeet Bhatnagar 2) Geetha Krishnaswamy
3) BN Gundanna

CITY READ

Crafts school hosts immersive showcase for textile connoisseurs

MAATI – The Crafts School, an initiative by Kadam India, and supported by the Tata Trusts, is bringing an immersive two-day showcase on June 5 and 6 at Flat Roof Building, Sabha BLR, Kasturba Road. The curated exhibition celebrates the living traditions of hand-painted Madhubani art alongside contemporary Bihar craftsmanship and is designed for textile connoisseurs, art and culture tastemakers, conscious textile retailers, architects, interior designers, collectors and anyone drawn to authentic legacy artistry. The highlight of the showcase is four women artisans travelling from the craft school's clusters to Madhubani and Darbhanga. Beyond design, the exhibition carries a real-world urgency as the initiative works in regions of Bihar where recurring climate and environmental challenges threaten traditional ways of life year after year.

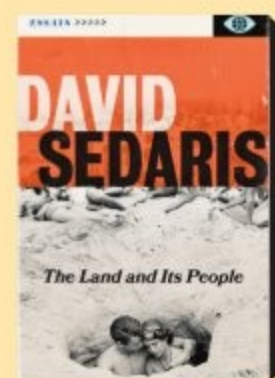
**BOOK
NOOK**



The Calamity Club
by Kathryn Stockett
The novel brings together an orphan, a spinster and a sex worker to learn to revolt against social injustice. It delves into the nature of economic hardship and the yearnings of disempowered women.



Dog Days
by Emily Labarge
Combining memoir, essay, and cultural criticism, the author ruminates on the personal trauma of being held hostage with her family and how languages and institutions constrain our understanding of trauma, violence and its aftermath.



The Land and Its People: Essays
by David Sedaris
In this essay collection by humourist and author David Sedaris, he investigates what it means to be a traveller, a brother, a lifelong friend, while also examining ageing and life's absurdities with curiosity and glee.



All Them Dogs: A Novel
by Djamel White
A young Irish gangster is caught in a brutal dance between desire and loyalty as he struggles to find balance in an unsparing world. What are the choices of a man in a world of violence, murder and dangerous secrets?



GRACE IN EVERY STEP

Bharatanatyam dancer Manvitha N performs her rangapravesha at Sri Krishnadevaraya Kalamandira Auditorium, Sankey Road | **NAGARAJA GADEKAL**

QUICKFIX

CRISPY POTATO TRIANGLES

- | | |
|--|---|
| INGREDIENTS | METHOD |
| ● Potato: 2, boiled | ● In a bowl, mash the boiled potatoes. |
| ● Bread slices: 2 | ● Soak the bread in water, squeeze the excess water, cut into pieces and add to the potatoes. |
| ● Corn starch: 2 tsp | ● Add corn starch, salt, chilli flakes, oregano and coriander leaves. |
| ● Salt: 1 tsp | ● Mix it well and then make a dough out of it. |
| ● Chilli flakes: 1 tsp | ● Then shape them into triangles, flattening the dough and deep fry them. |
| ● Oregano: 1 tsp | ● After it's done, serve hot with some tomato sauce. |
| ● Coriander leaves: 1 bunch, finely chopped | |



Contributed by **Kiran Joelle**, Hyderabad

WHATWHENWHYWHERE



Comedy Revel

Spend your evening cracking up at jokes by some of Bengaluru's most talented comedians. Undoubtedly an evening you'll remember, take along a friend or two and have twice the fun.
📍 **WHEN:** June 4, 9pm
📍 **WHERE:** Bloom Creative Zone, Indiranagar
📞 **CALL:** 91870 15552

Resin Therapy Enter this beginner-friendly workshop, where you'll learn the fluid art of resin making, where colours, textures and creativity come together. Start right at the basics, from mixing and pouring to crafting your own designs that you can take home with you.	📍 WHEN: June 4, 2pm 📍 WHERE: Cafe De Verde, Koramangala 📞 CALL: 70229 50810
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Aqua Magic

Dive into a world of aquatic wonders and take an immersive journey into the vibrant depths of marine life. Take your friends or family on a trip down the 180-foot-long underwater tunnel that boasts vibrant corals, majestic sea turtles, graceful sharks, mysterious rays and countless exotic fish that dart around you.
📍 **WHEN:** June 5, 10.30am onwards
📍 **WHERE:** Aquarium Paradise, JC Nagar
📍 **DETAILS:** district.in



Movie Night

Step into this screening of Jia Zhangke's *Still Life*, a movie set against the backdrop of a town in Fengjie County, which is gradually being demolished and flooded to make way for a dam, where a man and a woman visit to look for their estranged spouses and become witnesses to societal changes. Share your thoughts in the post-screening discussion.
📍 **WHEN:** June 4, 7.45pm
📍 **WHERE:** Angala, Cox Town
📍 **DETAILS:** @theparallelcinemaclub on Instagram

Bollywood Bash

Enjoy a DJ night where you'll be singing and dancing to familiar Bollywood music all night long. Take your friends or partner along and be prepared for a joyous night of partying to Bollywood hits.
📍 **WHEN:** June 4, 7.30pm
📍 **WHERE:** Big Pitcher, Indiranagar
📞 **CALL:** 95909 05000



On Cloud Wine

Whether you're a wine connoisseur or a newbie, this luxurious wine tasting and dining experience will have you coming back for more. Enjoy the curated menus with curated delights that will tickle your taste buds and satisfy your soul.
📍 **WHEN:** June 4, 5pm onwards
📍 **WHERE:** WIP, Sudhama Nagar
📍 **DETAILS:** urbanaut.app



Seoul Food

Do you find yourself craving the ramen or bibimbap in your fav K-drama? Experience authentic Korean food like a garlic cheese bun and crispy Korean fried chicken at this food experience that will surely have you relishing every flavourful bite. Even if you've never tried Korean food before, this will surely be a memorable experience.
📍 **WHEN:** June 4, 12.30pm onwards
📍 **WHERE:** The Studs Sports Bar & Grill, Sahakara Nagar
📍 **DETAILS:** district.in

	MISS-FIT Wanitha Ashok <i>The writer is a Fit India Movement Ambassador and celebrity fitness coach</i>
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How do I get over the fear of working out after an injury?

Fear after an injury is completely normal. Your body may have healed, but your mind is still trying to protect you from getting hurt again. The key is to rebuild confidence gradually. Start with exercises that feel safe and comfortable, focus on proper movement and celebrate small wins rather than trying to get back to your previous fitness level immediately. Listen to your body, but don't

ASK AN XPERT

Let fear make all the decisions. There is a difference between discomfort from rebuilding strength and pain that signals a problem. If you're unsure, work with a qualified fitness professional or physiotherapist who can guide your return safely. Remember, recovery is not about proving how much you can do. It's about trusting your body again, one workout at a time. One baby step at a time!

FITBIT

EXERCISE SAFETY CHECKLIST: ESSENTIAL STEPS FOR SAFER, MORE EFFECTIVE WORKOUTS

Whether you are a beginner starting your fitness journey or someone who exercises regularly, safety should always be a priority. Many workout-related injuries are not caused by difficult exercises alone. More often, they result from poor preparation, incorrect technique, inadequate recovery or progressing too quickly. Following a simple exercise safety checklist can help you train consistently, reduce the risk of injury, and get better results from your workouts.

START WITH A PROPER WARM-UP
A good workout begins before the first exercise. Warming up helps prepare your muscles, joints and cardiovascular system for physical activity.

Spend five to ten minutes performing dynamic movements such as arm circles, leg swings, bodyweight squats or brisk walking. This increases blood flow, improves mobility and helps your body transition into exercise safely.

WEAR THE RIGHT GEAR
The right clothing and footwear can make a significant difference to both comfort and performance. Shoes should be appropriate for the activity you are doing, whether it is running, strength training or group fitness classes.

Supportive footwear can help improve stability and reduce the risk of unnecessary strain or injury.
PRIORITISE PROPER FORM
One of the most common causes of exercise-related injuries is poor technique. Before increasing weights or intensity, focus on mastering the correct movement pattern.

Using proper form helps target the intended muscles, improves efficiency and reduces stress on joints and connective tissues.

STAY HYDRATED
Hydration plays an important role in exercise performance and recovery. Drink water before, during, and after your workout, especially during

hot weather or high-intensity training sessions.

Even mild dehydration can affect energy levels, concentration and physical performance.

LISTEN TO YOUR BODY
There is an important difference between challenging discomfort and pain. While some fatigue during exercise is normal, sharp pain, dizziness, chest discomfort or unusual shortness of breath should never be ignored.

If you experience any of these symptoms, stop exercising and seek medical advice if necessary.

PROGRESS GRADUALLY AND RECOVER WELL
Many injuries occur when people increase workout intensity, duration, or volume too quickly. Gradual progression allows the body to adapt safely over time.

Recovery is equally important. Include one or two recovery days each week and finish every workout with a proper cool-down, stretching and controlled breathing.



By Spoorthi S, fitness expert, cult—a fitness and wellness platform

ARTCORNER



MAJESTIC STILLNESS

In this pencil shading masterpiece, Joel J Binu beautifully captures the essence of nature's timeless grace

THURSDAY
04.06.2026

Ahead of World Environment Day on June 5, experts explain how parks, trees and greenery help reduce stress and anxiety

DARSHITA JAIN

THERE is a reason people slow down during a walk in a park, pause under a tree, or feel lighter after spending time in nature. In cities packed

with traffic, concrete buildings and endless noise, even a patch of green can feel like a breather. Ahead of World Environment Day on June 5, mental health experts say these spaces are doing far more than making neighbourhoods beautiful.

Speaking about how green surroundings affect the mind, Dr Praveen Gopan, consultant psychiatrist, says, "Studies show that access to parks, trees and natural surroundings can lower stress, anxiety and depression while improving mood, focus and social connection. Green neighbourhoods



also encourage physical activity, which further supports emotional and mental health."

For many, long work hours, screens, traffic jams and crowded spaces leave little room to mentally switch off. Explaining why nature feels calming, psychologist N Nandini explains, "Spending time near greenery reduces stress, lowers BP, improves mood and reduces chronic diseases. It also enhances sleep." She adds that spending time in greenery stimulates the five senses and helps them break away from

the overstimulation of urban environments.

The impact becomes clearer when green spaces are missing. Dr Gopan shares, "As cities expand and green spaces decline, concerns such as stress, anxiety, depression and social isolation may become prevalent. Reduced opportunities for recreation, relaxation and community interaction can affect emotional well-being."

Children, especially, seem to connect with nature in ways adults often forget. Nandini highlights, "Exposing children

to more greenery and nature helps them divert from gadgets and explore nature more, thereby enhancing their creativity and giving them more playtime, which is real-world exposure." She adds, "With adults, it helps release stress, unhealthy emotions, and ruminations that are a hindrance to growth."

Green spaces also shape how people connect. Whether it is neighbours chatting during a walk or families gathering in parks, these spaces create a sense of belonging. Dr Gopan explains, "Green spaces serve

as natural gathering points where people can walk, exercise and interact with others. These environments strengthen social bonds and stronger community connections are closely linked to lower stress levels and improved overall mental well-being."

Nature also affects the body in ways people may not realise. Nandini says, "Spending time in natural environments helps release hormones like endorphins, serotonin and dopamine, which improve dopamine serotonin balance and elevates mood. Phytoncides emitted by plants and trees activates neural pathways associated with relaxation and mental well-being, while also reducing stress hormone production and improving immune function by increasing natural killer cell activity. Daily exposure of 30 minutes in greenery also improves cognitive restoration."

As concrete spaces continue replacing natural ones, mental health professionals believe cities must prioritise greener urban environments. More parks and walkable neighbourhoods may not just beautify but also create healthier and emotionally stronger communities.

NUGGETS



Mother of noted Kannada actor undergoes robotic knee surgery

Anasuya BM, mother of Kannada actor Upendra, underwent robotic-assisted bilateral total knee replacement surgery at Manipal Hospital Yeshwanthpur, following long-standing knee pain caused by advanced osteoarthritis. Following a detailed orthopaedic evaluation and pre-surgical assessment, she underwent surgery using the advanced CUVIS robotic platform under the care of Dr. Kiran Chouka, Senior Consultant – Orthopedic Joint Replacement, Arthroscopic Surgeon. She was discharged in a stable condition.

DISCLAIMER

The information provided on this page is not a substitute for medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Always seek the help of a medical professional regarding any health condition.

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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, AMARESH MUNIYAPPA & AMARESH.H.M. (Old Name), S/o MUNIYAPPA, aged about 44 years, Resident at NO.1171, CHIKKAGALLAPPA BUILDING, VINAYAKA TEMPLE ROAD, HENUR BANDI, BENGALURU-560043, KARNATAKA, declare that I have changed my name from AMARESH MUNIYAPPA & AMARESH.H.M. (Old Name) to AMARESH HENUR MUNIYAPPA (New Name), henceforth I shall be known and called as AMARESH HENUR MUNIYAPPA (New Name) for all my personal, official & legal purpose, vide Affidavit dated: 02/06/2026 before Notary GANGARAJU.B.N. at BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RUCHIR SHANKAR, S/o Sri. Sheocharan Hirani Prasad, aged about 52 years, residing at #7043, Prestige Ferns Township, Harlur Road, East Wood Residence, Bellandur, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560103, do hereby declare that both the names RUCHIR SHANKAR and SHANKAR RUCHIR SHEOSHANKAR PRASAD refer to one and the same person who is me, and henceforth I shall be known and called as RUCHIR SHANKAR for all purposes, vide Affidavit dt: 03/06/2026, sworn to before Smt. S. VIJAYALAKSHMI, Advocate and Notary Public, Bengaluru - 560047.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SURESH (Old Name), S/o DODDAMARAPPA, Aged about 54 years, Resident at NO.9, 1ST CROSS, SURESH KUMARAPPA BUILDING, HENUR BANDI, KALYANANAGAR POST, BENGALURU-560043, KARNATAKA declare that I have changed my name from SURESH (Old Name) to SURESH HENUR DODDAMARAPPA (New Name), henceforth I shall be known and called as SURESH HENUR DODDAMARAPPA (New Name) for all my personal, official & legal purpose, vide Affidavit dated: 02/06/2026 before Notary GANGARAJU.B.N. at BENGALURU

CHANGE OF NAME
I, MANJUNATH T.R., S/o Ramachandrappa T. aged 49 years, R/at No. 41, Banashankari Krupa, Sai Misty Woods Layout, Gantiganahalli, Singanayakanahalli, Bangalore-560 064 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from MANJUNATH T.R. to MANJUNATH T.R., henceforth I shall be known and called as MANJUNATH T.R. for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 3rd June 2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary Smt. VATSALA at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, ARUN KUMARESHAN, S/o Kumareshan, age 39 years, R/at #57A, 11, Veknatasai Nilaya, 7th Cross, Market Road, Lakshminarayanaapuram, Sriampuram, Bangalore-560 021 do hereby declare that in my Aadhar Card and Election ID, my father name is mentioned as KUMARESHAN, but in my Passport, surname is mentioned as KUMARESHAN. I want to remove surname KUMARESHAN in my passport, hence this affidavit, vide affidavit dated 02/06/2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary ONKARAPPA. N.R at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I Gangamma W/o krishnappa R/o No. 508/421/20, Bullet Krishnappa Layout, Thindlu, Vidyanarayapura post, Bangalore-560097. Have change my Name From Gangamma to Nagamma Vide AFFIDAVIT Dated 03/06/2026 Sworn Before notary L.B. Anasuyamma Reg. No.12428 Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SABEENA BADAR N N, W/o Noor Sharif, aged 47 years, R/at No. 442/B, 11th Cross, Behind Noorani Masjid, Ilyas Nagar, J.P. Nagar, Bangalore-560078 do hereby declare that after my marriage I have changed my name from SABEENA BADAR N N to SABEENA BADAR N N, henceforth I shall be known and called as SABEENA BADAR N N for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 3rd June 2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary S. ESWARA REDDY at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
We, ARJUN HAARITH GOWRISHANKARA and MAHIMA NAMAGONDLY YASHONATH, No.191, Lotus Spring Apartment, Flat No.201, 3rd Floor, 2nd Main, 2nd Cross, Saravabhoomanagar, Bilekahalli-560076, have changed our Son name from ABHIMANYU HAARITH name to ABHIMANYU ARJUN HAARITH vide affidavit vide No.402, Dated: 22/05/2026, before the Notary D.K. Rameshappa, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Mr. KIRANA KUMARA, S/o Late Gopala Ganiga, age 44 years, R/at No. 74, Gopala Nilaya, 5th Cross Road, 2nd Main Road, Near Subramanya Temple, Akshayanagar West, Yelenahalli, Bangalore-560 068 do hereby declare that I have changed my minor son's name from ARNAV to ARNAV KIRANA RAO, henceforth he shall be known and called as ARNAV KIRANA RAO for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 02-06-2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary P.N. NAGESHA at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, No.2783876N, Ex-Nk Poonacha K T, S/o. late K M Thammaiah, residing at #1182, 2nd Floor, 1st Main Road, Near Star Bazar, Bengaluru North, BEL Layout, 2nd Block, Vidyanarayapura Post, Bengaluru-560097 have changed the name of my daughter from K P Bavika to Bavika K P, vide Affidavit Dated: 02/06/2026, sworn before XXIX Addl. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru City.

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS
Lost my Class 10 ICSE Marks card near Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru on May 24, 2026. Name- Chinmay HL s/o Lokesh BM, Index no- 1244606/ 152, Year of passing- 2024, Name of school- St. Mary's International School, Chikmagalur If found please contact- 7019847246.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, No.2783876N, Ex-Nk Poonacha K T, S/o. late K M Thammaiah, residing at #1182, 2nd Floor, 1st Main Road, Near Star Bazar, Bengaluru North, BEL Layout, 2nd Block, Vidyanarayapura Post, Bengaluru-560097 have changed the name of my daughter from K P Tejaswini to Tejaswini K P, vide Affidavit Dated: 02/06/2026, sworn before XXIX Addl. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru City

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SONIAKIL BIRAJ, W/o Akil Anand Biraj, aged about 42 Years, residing at #B-1803, Purva Sunflower, Near Magadi Road Metro Station, Magadi Road, Bangalore 560023 Do here by declare that my name changed from "SONI RATTU"(Old Name) to "SONI AKIL BIRAJ"(New Name) vide affidavit dated 02.06.2026 sworn to before me H.S. Sakalesh Aradiya Advocate & Notary, Govt of India, Bengaluru-560040.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SYED ALI RAZA, S/o Late Syed Mazhar Raza, age 37 years, R/at Old No.34, New No.4/1, 1st Floor, 2nd A Cross, Linden Street, Y G Palya, Bengaluru-560 047 do hereby declare that in my old passport my date of birth is mentioned as 14.03.1988 instead of 19.03.1988, which is true and correct, vide affidavit dated 02-06-2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary V. RAJASHEKARA at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, AKIL ANAND BIRAJ S/o Anand Baburao Biraj, aged about 42 Years, residing at # B-1803, Purva Sunflower, Near Magadi Road Metro Station, Magadi Road, Bangalore 560023 Do here by declare that my name changed from "AKIL BIRAJ" (Old Name) to "AKIL ANAND BIRAJ" (New Name) vide affidavit dated 02.06.2026 sworn to before me H.S Sakalesh Aradiya, Advocate & Notary Govt of India, Bengaluru-560 040.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, BALLIAMADA .S SAVITHA W/o Bellappa B.K, aged about 60 years/R/a No.12, SARIN NILAYA, 9th Cross, Kallappa Layout, Basava Nagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore, Marathahalli Colony, Bangalore-560037 have changed my name to SAVITHA BELLIPPA, vide affidavit dt.03/06/2026 before Notary Sivakumara.M.N, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, ASHOKUMAR (Old name) S/o BASANNA ARAKERI Residing at No. 301 3rd floor-7 HV Squire 11th main Shamanna Reddy Layout Virat Nagar Bommanahalli Bengaluru 560068 have changed my name to ASHOK KUMAR (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 3/6/2026 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, NAGARAJ R, being the father of minor HASINI NAGARAJ (Aadhar No. 6589 6164 2697), residing at No. 27/4, Vellarimanna Temple Street, Vannarpet, Viveknagar Post, Bengaluru 560047, Karnataka State, have changed my minor daughter's name from H A S I N I N A G A R A J to NEEHARIEKA. N, vide affidavit, dated, 03/06/2026 before Notary Gangaraju B.N., Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
We, LEKHA.C & RAJESH.A.P, R/at No.20, 15th Cross, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, Kempapura, Hebbal, Bangalore-560 044, have changed our Son's name from Souvik A R Raju to ARYA RAJU . A vide affidavit dated: 17-02-2026, sworn before Advocate & Notary Onkarappa. N.R, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, ASHUTOSH SATHAYE, Son of AVADOOT A SATHAYE, aged 25 years, Residing at # B-403, Whispering Meadows, 1st Main,RMV II Stage, Dollars Colony, Bengaluru-560094, have changed my name from ASHUTOSH SATHAYE to ASHUTOSH AVADOOT SATHAYE, vide affidavit dated: 03.06.2026 before Notary N Narayana Swamy, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, No.605972, Ex-SGT Augustine Mattel Jose, S/o. late. Augustine Jose, residing at # 664, 9th Main Road, 3rd Block, Near BDA Complex, HBR Layout, 1st Stage, Bengaluru North, Kalyanapuram, Bengaluru 560043, have changed my name from M.J Augustine to Augustine Mattel Jose, vide Affidavit Dated: 02/06/2026, sworn before XXIX Addl. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru City.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, ESHAAN RANKA (Old name), aged about 23 years S/o Dilip Ranka Residing at Usha Paradise, FF02, Shanti Main Road, Shanti Nagar, Bengaluru, 560027, have changed my name to ESHAAN DILIP RANKA (new name) vide affidavit dated: 27/5/2026 Before Notary Mohammed Hussain.K Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, No.13619949M, Ex-Hav Mallareppa Mirajakar, S/o. late. Ramchandra Mirajakar, residing at #121, 3rd Cross, Modi Garden, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru 560006, have changed the name of my daughter from Tanvi M to Tanvi M Mirajakar, vide Affidavit Dated: 02/06/2026, sworn before XXIX Addl. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru City.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RAGHAVENDRA NINGAPPA HAVANUR, aged 54 years, S/o. N.G. Havanur, residing of No.1667, 3rd Floor, 18th Cross, M.C. Layout, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560040, have changed my name from RAGHAVENDRA HAVANUR to RAGHAVENDRA NINGAPPA HAVANUR vide affidavit dated 03-06-2026 sworn before Notary DEEPA M. BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, KIRUTHIKA J, aged about 31 years, W/o. Harish S, residing at #993, 27th A Main, 9th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560069, Karnataka State, have changed my name to KRUTHIKA J, vide affidavit dated: 03.06.2026, before Notary Gangaraju B.N, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SUREKHA RAGHAVENDRA HAVANUR, aged 46 years, W/o. Raghavendra N. Havanur, residing of No.1667, 3rd Floor, 18th Cross, M.C. Layout, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560040, have changed my name from SUREKHA HAVANUR to SUREKHA RAGHAVENDRA HAVANUR vide affidavit dated 03-06-2026 sworn before Notary DEEPA M. BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SURESH RAJASEKHARAN (Old name) Residing at No 3 4th Cross Santosh Apartment Munithayappa Layout Lingarajapuram Bengaluru-560084 have changed my name to RODNEY SURESH (New name) vide affidavit dated: 3/6/2026 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, VIMALA ADDLUR, aged 70 years, W/o. A.M. Krishnaraju, residing of No.16, 1st Main, Dwaraka Nagar, Chandra Layout, Bengaluru-560072, have changed my name from VIMALA RAJU ADLUR to VIMALA ADDLUR vide affidavit dated 03-06-2026 sworn before Notary DEEPA M. BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Zainabhi, Residing at No 34, Sir M V Layout, Chikkabasti, Ululal Upanagar post, Bangalore 560110 I have changed my name to ZAINABHI ABBAS for all purposes vide affidavit dated 02/06/2026 sworn before advocate and notary B M CHANDRASHEKHAR, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RAVI KRISHNAMURTHY aged about 38 years, Address : S/o S.Krishna murthy, Flat No.17014, Prestige Lakeside Habitat Apartment, Gunjur, Varthur, Bengaluru-560087, I declare that below mentioned both names RAVI KRISHNAMURTHY and "K.RAVI" belong to my names only and represents one and the same person. I declare that my correct name is "RAVI KRISHNAMURTHY", vide affidavit dated 3/6/2026 sworn to before Yankoba Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT
I, HARDIK JAIN, aged 27 years, (DOB : 28.02.1999) S/o. Kiranbabu, residing at # 11, Kamal Krupa, D.N. Ramaiah Layout, Palace Gutahalli, Sheshadripuram, Bangalore-560020, do hereby declare that names HARDIK JAIN, HARDIK JAIN K, K HARDIK JAIN, HARDIK JAIN KIRANBABU are the names of one and the same person i.e., HARDIK JAIN, vide affidavit dated 03.06.2026, sworn to before Mamatha .N.K, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, JAYASHREE BALAJI Residing at No.633/120, 1st Cross, 9th Main, Prakashnagar, Bengaluru - 560021. Hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my name to JAYASHREE PURUSHOTHAM vide affidavit dated 02.06.2026 sworn to before Notary, T.C.Thimmaraja, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, CHANDRAKANT HONAKERI Residing at No.852A, 1st Floor, 17th E Main, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru - 560010. Hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my name to CHANDRAKANT HARISHCHANDRA HONAKERI vide affidavit dated 02.06.2026 sworn to before Notary, T.C.Thimmaraja, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, JAYASHEELI SAVERIRAJ, W/o. late. Theresa Nathan, residing at #282/1, CMR Layout, Behind Farns Apartments, Chelikeri, Kalyanapuram Post, Bengaluru 560043, have changed my name to JAYASEELI NATHAN vide Affidavit Dated: 03/06/2026 sworn before Notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru.

For **SMART ADS** & **CLASSIFIEDS** Contact : Mr Ravi Kumar 9886550650 080-22866893

OTHERS

THANKSGIVING
Thank you for the favors & blessings received. continue to bless us with the favors we seek. SRINIVASAN & FAMILY

THANKSGIVING
Thank you for the favors & blessings received. continue to bless us with the favors we seek. SRINIVASAN & FAMILY

THANKSGIVING
Lord Jesus, I come before you with heartfull of gratitude. Thank you for granting me favor in my examination. Seeking your blessings for me and my family. Ashwini & family

THANKSGIVING
Thanks for all the Favours & Blessings received, Bless our Family always. RICHARD FLORENCE AND FAMILY.

THANKSGIVING
Thank you for the favors & blessings received. Bless our Family always. RICHARD FLORENCE AND FAMILY.

THANKSGIVING
Thank you for the favors & blessings received. Bless our Family always. RICHARD FLORENCE AND FAMILY.

THANKSGIVING
Thank you MOTHER MARY for blessing my son to complete his studies and to get a good placement. Thank you for all graces, mercies and blessings bestowed on my son and my family through your intercession to the Heavenly Father., Seeking your blessings always. Treasa Joseph, Rohan Joseph and Joseph George, family

THANKSGIVING
Thank you Infant Jesus for blessing my son to complete his studies and blessing him with a good job placement and thank you for all additional graces, mercies and blessings bestowed on my son and my family thru your intercession to the Heavenly Father., Seeking your blessings always. Treasa Joseph and Rohan Joseph, Joseph George and family

THANKSGIVING
Thanks for all your favours and blessings. VANI & Family

THANKSGIVING
Thank you St. ANTHONY for blessing my son to complete his studies and getting a good placement and thank you always for all graces, mercies and blessings bestowed on my son and my family thru your intercession to the Heavenly Father., Seeking your blessings always. Treasa Joseph Rohan Joseph and Joseph George and family

THANKSGIVING
Thank you for the favors & blessings received. Bless our Family always. RICHARD FLORENCE AND FAMILY.

THANKSGIVING
Thank you for the favors & blessings received. Bless our Family always. RICHARD FLORENCE AND FAMILY.

THANKSGIVING
Thank you for the favors & blessings received. Bless our Family always. RICHARD FLORENCE AND FAMILY.

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A SHARADHAA

FOR Priya Sudeep, cinema was never a distant world. In a household where acting, direction, production and creative conversations naturally coexist, films were always part of everyday life. Yet, despite belonging to a family where cinema felt second nature, production was not something she rushed toward. “In the beginning, it didn’t interest me at all. I was happy with Sudeep being in films. That was enough for me.” Back then, playing the role of a mother was important. Now my daughter, Sanvi, is on her own, and I suddenly have more time. Cinema felt like the natural next step because it is our home and culture, and something that has always existed around us. But I wanted to do this only when I had enough time and when I could give my best. I didn’t want the weight of my dreams to fall on anybody else because it is my dream. The baggage should not affect anybody else. So, both the good and bad are mine to bear.” That conviction now takes shape through *Mango Pachcha*, which launches Sanchith, Sudeep’s nephew, and brings together producers Priya Sudeep, Karthik Gowda and Yogi G Raj as they gear up for the film’s release on June 5.

For Priya, the collaboration felt less like strategy and more like shared instinct. “Both Sanchith’s and my journey begins from here, as producer and actor respectively, and I was lucky to receive this script from Karthik and Yogi and decided to collaborate. I look up to both of them. Of course, I have Sudeep around, but I admire the way Karthik and Yogi approach films and how they think about presenting cinema. Our wavelengths matched, and that became a little cushioning if I needed to fall back. I feel like I stepped in at the right time.” Karthik Gowda traces *Mango Pachcha*’s roots to conversations that began years ago. “In 2020,

Dhananjaya introduced us to Viveka. COVID held the project back, but the conversations never stopped. By 2022, the film came back into focus, and we all ways knew we should make it.” The screenplay had already found backers. “Viveka was looking for the right producers for his film,” Priya says. “It was a beautiful journey of the script itself.” According to Priya, what convinced them was the world Viveka had built. “It was the script, screenplay and characterisation, and how rooted it was to Mysuru, something close to what we have heard and known. It did not matter that he was a newcomer. The narration clicked. He has a sincerely deep-rooted passion. He knows Kannada cinema history and culture and has that fire in the belly. That really touched me.” Yogi G Raj echoes that faith. “Every newcomer should be given that opportunity. We put our trust in Viveka because of the confidence he had in his script.”

Though the film hints at local



Priya Sudeep

I DIDN'T WANT THE WEIGHT OF MY DREAMS TO FALL ON ANYBODY ELSE: PRIYA SUDEEP

A still from the film



Priya Sudeep traces her journey into production with *Mango Pachcha* alongside Karthik Gowda and Yogi G Raj, as the trio reflect on ownership, collaboration, Sanchith's debut, championing new voices in cinema, and the value Sudeep brought to the film behind the scenes



Karthik Gowda

power structures and social realities, and surrounds the Green mafia, the makers resist easy categorisation. “It is a backdrop and how it impacts lives,” Priya says. “At the centre are interpersonal relationships,” Yogi adds. “There are commercial and family elements as well,” says Karthik. The casting followed a similarly organic path. Viveka believed *Mango Pachcha* needed a fresh face, and it was Dhananjaya who suggested Sanchith. “That’s how the film came together,” Karthik recalls. For Priya, however, Sanchith’s arrival is not a sudden launch but the culmination of years of preparation. “This has been a 12-year journey. He began with photography and cinematography, learnt direction and worked as an assistant director. He has spent years understanding filmmaking. I feel this is the right way to enter the film industry. One has to learn the varied aspects of filmmaking before coming in front of the camera. That becomes an added advantage as an actor.” Even then, she did not anticipate what she would witness on set. “He did script reading and workshops. But, when I visited the set and saw him in makeup, I didn’t see Sanchith anymore, I saw Pachcha. When I spoke to him, he sounded very confident. We didn’t want to put our thoughts into him. I wanted him to cultivate his own understanding. The freedom belonged to him and Viveka. His dialogue delivery and body language signalled a complete transformation.” Karthik observed another side to Sanchith. “Coming from a family with a star like Sudeep, he could have carried that air. But Sanchith became a friend to us. There was no sense of entitlement.”

The expectations surrounding a well-known surname, Priya

says, are something the family has consciously tried to soften. “We have always told them to never let the surname precede your dreams or aspirations. Be who you are. People may talk, but don’t let that get inside you. There is no timeframe and no comparison. We want them to grow on their own.” If pressure exists, she admits, it is one she places on herself. “When people think of Sudeep, they associate him with perfection and commitment. That creates pressure for me as a producer because I don’t want to disappoint him or his fans. I want to see that little twinkle in his eyes and feel we have achieved something that makes him proud.”

All three producers agree that Sudeep’s presence has remained close to the film. “He has fine-tuned things,” Priya says. “Viveka has done a brilliant job and that is why he is directing the film,” Karthik adds. “But yes, *Mango Pachcha* also has Sudeep’s touch.” For Yogi, Priya’s transition into a producer has been equally fascinating. “She was curious to learn everything about cinema. That made things easy because she was approachable. She questioned things if she needed clarity.

Priya has patience, and she has learnt a lot about cinema. There is still a lot ahead of her.” Priya believes collaboration itself benefits from varied perspectives. “In creative work, the energies of men and women harmonise differently. Though cinema is still male-dominated, I want young women to step in with confidence because we can add value. We are physically capable. Sometimes the hurdles are only in the mind. Hopefully, in the future, I can create a safer environment.

If there is one strength I bring to the table, it is patience and clarity in communication. Everybody should be on the same page and maintain good rapport. That solves a lot of things.” And before signing off, she leaves behind one final tease. “Sudeep is in the film. But I’ll keep the details a surprise for now.”

Raadhya embraces action-packed role in *The Red Bag*

Raadhya makes her Telugu debut with *The Red Bag*, stepping into an action-driven and unconventional role

CE FEATURES

RAADHYA’S screen journey through Kannada films like *Namma Hudugaru*, *Desai*, and *Ronny* has largely seen her inhabit familiar spaces. But with *The Red Bag*, the actor finds herself stepping into unfamiliar territory. Directed by Ravi Kumar Seerapu, *The Red Bag* blends mystery, action and a character-driven narrative. For Raadhya, choosing the film to mark her Telugu debut was a conscious decision rather than an impulsive leap. “I heard a few scripts before choosing this as my debut because *The Red Bag* gave strong elevation to my



Raadhya

character,” says Raadhya. “The story moves through her journey, and there was more screen space for me to showcase my performance.” Produced by Harikrishna Somisetty under the Memory Makers banner, the thriller revolves around a mysterious bag and features Kabir Singh Duhan, Prasad Behara, senior actor Raashi and others in pivotal roles. Ravi Kumar Seerapu has written and directed the film while also handling the screenplay. The makers recently unveiled Raadhya’s character poster.

That contrast, Raadhya admits, was precisely the attraction. “I like exploring characters that are not usual,” she says. “I had been waiting for a good love story, but I decided to take this up because it allowed me to explore myself differently and learn through experience.” The exploration was not merely emotional or performative. It demanded preparation. “I had many things to explore as an artist in *The Red Bag*. Since there is action, I attended fighting workshops and learnt bike riding. It is completely different from the usual roles I have done.” While *The Red Bag* introduces her in a darker, action-heavy space, Raadhya is already thinking ahead. “My next Telugu film will be a love story that will help audiences connect with me as a lover girl,” she says. With two Kannada projects, including one with Roopesh Shetty, three Telugu films lined up and a Malayalam project under discussion, Raadhya is balancing industries and possibilities with quiet optimism. “I’m grateful for the way my journey is moving forward,” she signs off.

CE FEATURES

THE title of director Ashok Kadaba’s upcoming Kannada film, *Kirunage*, was officially unveiled by Lakshmi Govindaraju, daughter of the legendary actor Dr Rajkumar, along with SA Govindaraju. The event was also graced by former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda.

Produced by Latashree DC under the Harshini Cinemas banner, *Kirunage* stars Vijay Raj and Khushbu in lead roles. Speaking about the project, Ashok revealed that *Kirunage*, his sixth directorial venture, is rooted in the romance genre and explores an unusual emotional conflict in which children sacrifice their love for their parents’ happiness. Adding to its uniqueness, the first half of the film unfolds entirely against the backdrop of a wedding household.

The filming of the film has wrapped up, and it was shot across Bengaluru, Udipi, Vijayapura, Mumbai, and Goa, with post-production progressing briskly.

Television actor Vijay Raj makes his debut as a leading man in *Kirunage*, opposite Khushbu. The cast also features



A still from the film

Kirunage marks the big-screen debut of Vijay Raj



Team Kirunage

Slrsh, veteran actor Shruti, Bollywood actor Raju Kher (Anupam Kher’s brother), as well as Sangeetha, Moogu Suresh, Sudha Belawadi, and Manjunath Hegde.

The film produced by Latashree DC has music composed by Sukrut, who has previously worked with AR Rahman, while Nagarjuna Sharma has penned the songs.

David Harbour, Gaby Hoffman to star in dark comedy

CE FEATURES

WE had reported earlier that the *Weapons* producers Zach Cregger and Roy Lee are reuniting for a new film titled *Little One*. The latest update is that actors David Harbour (*Stranger Things*) and Gaby Hoffmann (*Springsteen: Deliver Me from Nowhere*) have joined the dark comedy.

Directed and penned by debutant Alex Kavutskiy, *Little One*, which curiously follows the theme of *Weapons*, revolves around a sudden change in a child’s behaviour that endangers a picture-perfect family.



Lindsey Anderson Beer to direct *Hollow*

CE FEATURES

FOLLOWING the announcement of her production banner, Honey Trap, Sydney Sweeney is set to produce and star in the feature adaptation of the novel, *Hollow*. The novel is authored by Lindsey Anderson Beer, who also writes and directs the film. Beer’s LabBrew banner and LuckyChap are co-producing the film with Honey Trap. The novel is a reimagining of *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, which follows Katrina Van Tassel’s perspective. The story, which has Sweeney play Van Tassel, is a marriage of gothic ambience, erotic thriller and psychological intrigue. The novel’s publication is timed for the second half of 2027 to align with the film’s development.



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FOCUS FEATURE

HEYBALL ACADEMY INTRODUCES ‘NEURAL REWIRING’ COACHING IN INDIA

Heyball Academy Bangalore, in partnership with Chris Henry Sports, has successfully conducted India’s first Level 1 Chris Henry Coach Certification Program and intensive player training sessions. The five-day program, held from May 27 to 31, marked the first official coaching visit to India by renowned cue sports coach Chris Henry. Coaches, academy owners, and players from across the country participated in the training. A key highlight was the introduction of the “Neural Rewiring” coaching system,



Pranit J. Ramchandani with Chris Henry

which combines neuroscience-based learning with snooker and Heyball training methods to improve skill development and competitive performance.

The program was led by Chris Henry and Pranit J. Ramchandani, founder of Heyball Academy Bangalore and India’s first Chris Henry Level 2 certified coach.

Following the success of the initiative, the academy plans to expand its coach education, junior development, and advanced player training programs across India.

MAATI Brings ‘Colours of MAATI’ to Bengaluru; Showcases Mithila Art and Contemporary Craft

MAATI – The Crafts School, a collective supported by Tata Trusts, will host ‘Colours of MAATI’, a two-day exhibition celebrating Mithila art, contemporary craft, and artisan-led design at SABHA in Bengaluru on June 5 and 6. The exhibition will feature four women artisans from Bihar’s Madhubani and Darbhanga regions, who will present handcrafted works rooted in the rich traditions of Mithila art. The showcase aims to highlight how traditional art forms can be adapted for contemporary living while

preserving their cultural essence.

The first day, June 5, will be reserved for an exclusive preview for architects, interior designers, hospitality brands, retailers, procurement teams, and institutional collectors. The session is expected to encourage business collaborations, bespoke commissions, and long-term sourcing partnerships.

On June 6, the exhibition will open to the public, offering visitors access to limited-edition handcrafted collections and the opportunity to place custom orders.